



“At the end of life we will not be judged by how many diplomas we have received, how much money we have made, how many great things we have done. We will be judged by “I was hungry, and you gave me something to eat, I was naked and you clothed me. I was homeless, and you took me in.”

- Saint Teresa of Calcutta

Saint Cecilia Parish

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from the church of San Apollinare in Ravenna, Italy

SAINT CECILIA PARISH

170 Mechanic Street, Leominster, Massachusetts 01453 – 978-537-6541 – stceciliachurch.net

Office Hours: Monday through Friday from 10am to 3pm.



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Jamie Camire

rectory cook

Deacon Ronald J. Aubuchon, Deacon emeritus

Weekend Masses: Vigil Mass 4:00pm Saturday, Sunday Masses at 7:00am, 9:45am and 11:15am.

Weekday Masses: Monday through Saturday at 9:00am; Wednesday at 6:00pm.

Sacrament of Penance: Wednesday at 6:30pm, Thursday at 9:30am, Saturday at 9:30am and 3:00pm.

Rosary: Monday through Friday at 3:00pm; Wednesday at 7:00pm.

Eucharistic Adoration: Wednesdays and Fridays from 9:30am to noon.



WITH THE HELP OF SAINT CECILIA PASTORAL REFLECTIONS

Dear brothers and sisters,

I'm not a very accomplished in the world of sports. Maybe it was that time in fourth grade that I got my first (and only) touchdown, only to discover I had run to the wrong goal post! That day made a lasting impression on me.

But the one thing I do know is what the famous Yogi Berra once said, "It ain't over 'till it's over."

Which is why I am writing to you, once again, regarding the **Partners in Charity** annual appeal.

If you've been reading the *Catholic Free Press* lately, you already know that the appeal has a long way to go in meeting its goal of five million dollars. "As of July 9," according to the *Catholic Free Press*, "the annual campaign had received 9,435 gifts worth \$3,819,619, about 76 percent of the goal. As of the same date last year, Partners in Charity had received 10,205 gifts worth \$4,005,110, about 80% of the goal. So the campaign is down 874 gifts and \$221,141 from this time a year ago."

Here at Saint Cecilia's, **our goal is \$50,000**. As of last week we had received \$25,755 from 98 donors (137 had given by this point last year). That represents about **52%** of our goal, with **\$24,245 to go**.

As you know, Partners in Charity serves tens of thousands of people in the diocese while supporting Catholic Charities, Priests' Retirement, Retired Priests Health Ministry, Pernet Family Health Service, the Diocesan Cemetery System, Catholic Schools Office, Office of Religious Education, Grant-in-Aid for Catholic Schools, Seminarian Education, Advanced Studies for Clergy and Laity, Communications Ministry, Diocesan Schools Grants, Catholic Campus Ministry, African Ministry, Hispanic and Latino Ministry, Office of Marriage and Family, Minister to priests, Office of the Diaconate, Youth and Young Adult Ministries, Respect Life Office, Saint Paul Cathedral and Office for Divine Worship.

As you heard last week from our seminarian intern, Daniel Morrissey, these are essential Diocesan wide ministries who help so many.

If there is any way you can help Bishop McManus to reach the goal, please use one of the envelopes at the entrances or just drop us a note with your donation. I promise it will go along way to advancing the mission of the Church in the Diocese of Worcester.

In the Lord,

Monsignor Moroney





REFLECTIONS ON THE COLLECT BY DANIEL MORRISSEY

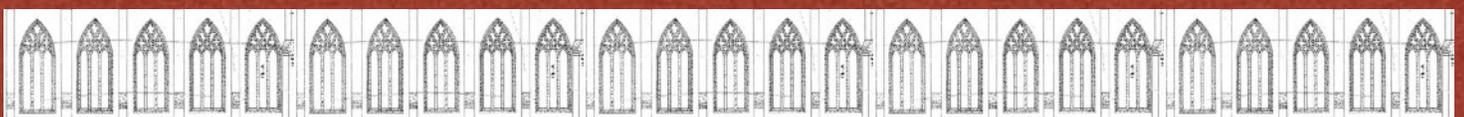


In the Collect for this Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time we are asking God for an increase in the gifts of his grace; namely in faith, hope and love. In our Catholic Tradition these are called the theological virtues. They differ from other virtues because they cannot simply be naturally acquired through practice like many of the other virtues. They are given to us supernaturally and infused into our soul by God himself through baptism. Two ways we can grow in these theological virtues is through the reception of the sacraments and through prayer. However, once received, we must then use the gifts we have been given to live our supernatural lives as children of God.

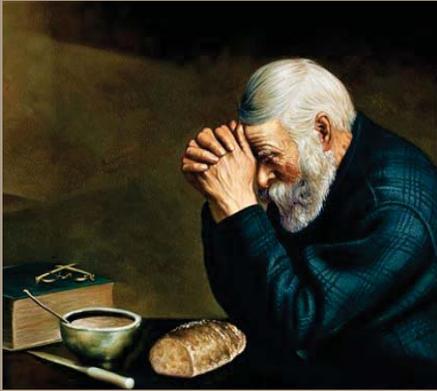
This week can we ask God to increase our faith: to believe that God is who he says that he is, namely, to believe that he is good, kind, faithful, trustworthy, just and merciful? Can we ask for an increase of faith to believe that God is loving and loves you, me and all people? Can we ask for an increased faith in the Catholic faith as a whole and all its teachings? Can we ask to increase our faith in the intercession of the saints, especially of Our Blessed Mother? Can we ask for a deeper faith in the Real Presence of God in the Holy Eucharist, that God speaks to our hearts through Scripture or that God is the one forgiving all our sins confessed in the Sacrament of Reconciliation? Can we ask God to increase our faith in the power that prayer has? Let's look at each of these things individually and really pray with one at a time asking him to deepen our faith in them.

This week let's ask God to increase our hope. Hope is something akin to desire and trust. But a desire and trust grounded in God and heaven. It's a hope in God's strength and aid in all things. (CCC 1817) Can we ask God to increase our hope in him as the one and only thing that truly satisfies our deepest desires rather than placing our hope in ourselves, our own efforts, material things, family, health, friends or pleasures to do so? Can we ask to increase our hope in becoming saints because it's God who accomplishes it? Can we choose to hope instead of succumbing to despair and discouragement? Can we ask God to increase our hope in his promises, the good things to come and our salvation in the heavenly Kingdom?

This week can we ask God to increase our capacity to love? True love means to will the good of another. Can we ask God to help us to love both in small and large ways? To love even when we don't feel like it, when it requires "tough love" or simply have no love left to give? To love until it hurts and requires sacrifice? Can we ask God to love with a generous and joyful spirit? To help us persevere in love indefinitely with no end in sight? Can we ask for God's merciful love to forgive those who hurt us? But also, to love our enemies as our friends? Can we ask for help to love amidst our trials, sufferings and bad days? This is Christ-like love.



PRAY WITH US!



Pray for all who are sick, and especially for: John Bessette, Claudette Guilmette, Wayne G., Stephanie St. G., Christina Fernet, Claudette Lucas, Klye Eaton, Rita Churri, Joseph "Max" Beaudoin, John LaFortune, Lyndsay Booth, Haddie Boucher, Lisa Stacy, Raymond Maillet and Connie A.

Join us in praying for those who have died recently. Pray for their families, as well, that they may be consoled by the promises of Christ.

If you know someone who needs prayers, call the rectory or email office@stceciliachurch.net and we will add them to our prayer list for the next several weeks.

LAST WEEKEND'S
PARISH COLLECTIONS
TOTALLED \$7,061.



ARE YOU LOOKING FOR SOMETHING FUN TO DO THIS SUMMER?

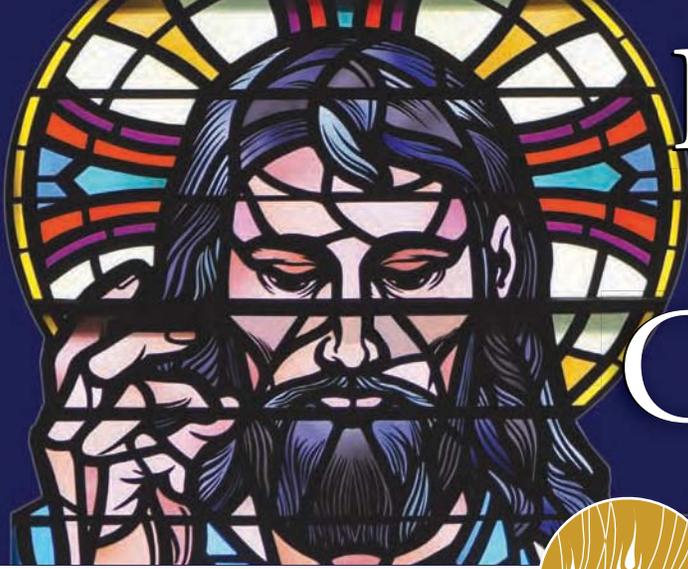
Our Vacation Bible School (VBS) group is heading to Old Sturbridge Village on Friday, July 25th. They will be looking to see how dying fabrics, making candles & cooking might be similar to how they might have done it in Ancient Egypt. **We have extra seats on the bus!**



You can hop on our bus and let us drive you there. You can take part in the group discount and enjoy Old Sturbridge Village at your leisure and you do not need to be a part of the VBS group.

We have 20 seats available. An adult needs to accompany and be responsible for any child(ren) you sign up. The cost will be \$40.00 a person and checks can be made out to St. Cecilia Church.

The bus will leave the Parish Center parking lot at 8:45 AM and return at 4:00 PM. You may pack a lunch. Any questions please reach out to Adam at 978.537.6541 or adminassist@stceciliachurch.net



Be the *face* of CHRIST

We couldn't do it without you!

“Lord, you give the great commission, heal the sick and preach the word; lest the church neglect its mission, and the gospel go unheard...”



DIOCESE of WORCESTER

This wonderful hymn sums up so well why the Diocese of Worcester invites all parishioners to participate in the annual Partners in Charity appeal.



“The Church exists to bring the message of Christ to the world,” says Bishop McManus. “If we believe Christ cared for the poor and those who were on the periphery, as Pope Francis often puts it, then the Church must do that, too. That is what we are doing through the agencies and ministries of Partners in Charity by offering compassion to those less fortunate than ourselves.”

People are struggling in so many ways beyond dealing with the ongoing COVID pandemic, experiencing a hunger of the body, a hunger of the mind and a hunger of the soul.

Together with our parishes and schools, our agencies and ministries are witnessing to the love of God made known to us through the Gospels. Making the face of Christ real to tens of thousands of people each year, we are assuring that our Catholic faith is alive and tangible in the world today, for it is a faith in action!

“As with the virtues of faith and hope, charity is only possible when we are infused with the grace of God,” Bishop McManus said. “When we recognize the grace of God that is given to us, we can respond to those around us in need.”

Hunger of the Body

Charitable agencies are offering the face of Christ each day to those who are hungry, struggling with the risk of homelessness, or in need of clothing and other necessities for their families.

Miurka Torres, of Catholic Charities said, “Our clients have always been grateful that Catholic Charities helps them find hope, not just a quick solution for that day. We work with them to help them on



a road that keeps families together and leads to independence in the future.”

Lateasha, a client of Catholic Charities, said, “I am so grateful that when I came to Catholic Charities for help, they wanted to know me and my family. They are even helping deal with how this pandemic has made life so hard.”

Hunger of the Mind

Catholic education is about presenting the face of Christ to those who are hungry to know how to prepare for life.

Michael Hoogasian, teacher at Saint Paul Diocesan Junior/Senior

CONTINUED ON BACK



Partners in Charity

DIOCESE of WORCESTER

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High School, said, "Catholic schools provide many opportunities for students to connect with God and to discover what God has planned for them and to make the world a better place, as Saint Paul writes in his letter to the Romans. We recognize that our students are the Church of today, not just for the future."

"I am grateful for receiving a Catholic education since the seventh grade, because I was treated as a whole person, not just a number," said Daniel Mara. "It truly is a blessing that people donate to financially support families who want their children to get a Catholic education and to experience the great things I have experienced here at Saint Paul."

Hunger of the Soul

"I was a college graduate with a good career path as a medical technician," says Jonathan Amidon, seminarian for the Diocese of Worcester. "But I kept feeling that I was being called to serve people as a priest. God's love has been so present and powerful in my life that I need to share that love with others whether in times of joy, or sorrow, or despair. The diocesan seminary program is making it possible for me to pursue studies for the priesthood without the distraction of how to support myself and figure out how to pay for another college degree."



"It is very difficult today for a young man to hear God calling him to a vocation to the priesthood," said Father Donato Infante, director of vocations. "We are grateful that Partners in Charity offers the financial means to provide the environment for young people to discern through prayer, reflection and spiritual direction."

Consider Making a Pledge or Gift today



Whether you make a monthly or quarterly pledge, or a one-time gift, your support of Partners in Charity is making a difference for tens of thousands of people in need.



Check out the options for ways to donate on this brochure. Your response is a response to someone who is hungry for hope in their lives and the lives of their loved ones.

As Bishop McManus expressed, "My fervent hope and prayer is that people will respond as missionary disciples to those in need, making the Good News of the Gospel real in people's lives through the work of the agencies and ministries of Partners in Charity."

List of agencies

Charity

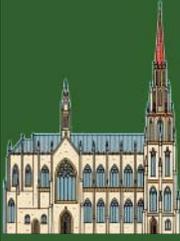
- Catholic Charities
- McAuley Nazareth Home for Boys
- Pernet Family Health Service
- Priests' Retirement
- Retired Priests Health Ministry
- St. John Diocesan Cemetery System

Education

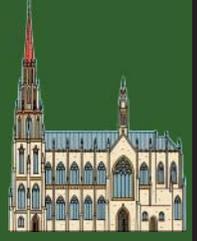
- Advanced Studies for Clergy and Laity
- Catholic Schools Office
- Communications Ministry
- Grant-in-Aid for Schools
- Office of Religious Education
- Ongoing Priestly Formation
- Seminarian Education
- Stewardship Office

Ministry

- African Ministry
- Catholic Campus Ministry
- Hispanic Apostolate
- Minister to Priests
- Office for Divine Worship
- Office of Hispanic/Latino Ministry
- Office of Marriage and Family
- Office of the Diaconate
- Respect Life Office
- St. Paul Cathedral
- Vocations Office
- House of Studies
- Youth and Young Adult Ministries



THIS WEEK AT SAINT CECILIA



Saturday July 19 Vigil *Breaking Bread, page 192*

3:00pm Confessions (Church)
4:00pm Mass for Molly McGovern, by Sue and Ed Zephir, Susan Chalifoux-Zephir, Eladia Romero and Brandon Robbins (Church)

Sunday July 20 Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time *Breaking Bread, page 192*

7:00am Mass for Claude and Robert Doiron, by Emile, Rose and Denise (Church)
9:45am Mass for Mr. and Mrs. Donat LeBlanc, by Felix and Annette LeBlanc (Church)
11:15am Mass for James and Lucille Fernandes, by the family (Church)
 6:00-8:00pm Sunday Night Card Players (Parish Center)

Monday July 21 Weekday in Ordinary Time

9:00am Mass for Karen LeBreton, by her aunt, Carol (Chapel)
 3:00pm Rosary and Divine Mercy Novena (Chapel)

Tuesday July 22 Saint Mary Magdalene

9:00am Mass for Yvonne Miller, by her friends (Chapel)
 3:00pm Rosary and Divine Mercy Novena (Chapel)

Wednesday July 23 Weekday in Ordinary Time

9:00am Mass for Anita Frechette, by Kevin and Michele Mack, Simard FH (Chapel)
 Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament follows Mass - Benediction at Noon (Chapel)
 3:00pm Rosary and Divine Mercy Novena (Chapel)
6:00pm Mass for Pius Yun, by the family (Chapel)
 6:30pm Confessions (Church)
 7:00pm Rosary (Chapel)
 7:30pm Introduction to Catholicism for Young Adults (Rector)

Thursday July 24 Weekday in Ordinary Time

9:00am Mass for Yvonne Champagne, by Kevin and Michele Mack, Brandon FH (Chapel)
 9:30am Confessions (Church)
 3:00pm Rosary and Divine Mercy Novena (Chapel)
 7:00-9:00pm Haitian Prayer Group (Chapel)

Friday July 25 Saint James

9:00am Mass for Andre Bergeron, by Emery and Marie Anne Richard (Chapel)
 Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament follows Mass - Benediction at Noon (Chapel)
 3:00pm Rosary and Divine Mercy Novena (Chapel)
 6:30pm BINGO (Parish Center) Doors open at 4:00pm; Game starts at 6:30pm

Saturday July 26 Saints Joachim and Anne

9:00am Mass for Bert LeBlanc, by his wife (Chapel)
 9:30am Confessions (Church)

Saturday July 26 Vigil

Breaking Bread, page 194

3:00pm Confessions (Church)
4:00pm Mass for the Deceased members of the Ladies of St. Anne Society, by the Ladies of St. Anne Society Members (Church)

Sunday July 27 Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Breaking Bread, page 194

7:00am Mass for Albert and Doris Mangiacotti, by Paul Melanson (Church)
9:45am Mass for Louise Boucher, by the family (Church)
11:15am Mass for Leonide Bernard (2nd anniv.), by Anne Marie and Jean Noel Bernard (Church)
 6:00-8:00pm Sunday Night Card Players (Parish Center)



Saints Joachim and Anne



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