



Saint Cecilia Parish

Burning of Sodom and Gomorrah from the Bible of St. Petersburg

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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Denis Leger

property manager



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cantor



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,

Perhaps no one has written more on the Church in the digital age than the late Pope Benedict XVI, who urged us to transform social media into "doors of truth and faith." While he admitted that social media can become an all consuming echo chamber of conspiracies, he also urged us to use all the tools of modern communication to spread the Gospel, even on the parish level.

That's why I am delighted that Saint Cecilia's has a vital and growing social media footprint and that so many of you keep in touch with your favorite parish on French Hill via your phone, laptop and iPad. Perhaps the most used social media platform in our parish is our Facebook page **@St Cecilia's Church**. We also have a newly created Instagram account **@stceciliaeominster** In addition to breaking news, the Mass is streamed each Sunday so that those who cannot get to Church can at least see and hear what is happening. We also post occasional informational videos and livestream the ever popular calendar raffle drawings.

Flocknotes are regular emails and texts which are distributed on a variety of subjects, as well. In fact, beginning next week, we will be distributing a PDF of the bulletin to all our Flocknote subscribers who will then be given the option to continue receiving the bulletin on a weekly basis or not. To join Flocknote: **Text 84576**, type **JOINSTCECILIA** in the message line or go to our website and click on the sheep icon (or email Adam Cormier at adminassist@stceciliachurch.net) and we will add you to the list! Next Monday (August 5th) we will be sending out an email and a text message to all those already on our Flocknote list to make sure we have the latest contact information. If you do not receive an email and or a text from us, please email Adam Cormier. We will be working in the next coming weeks to update our subscription lists and categories of information to which one can subscribe.

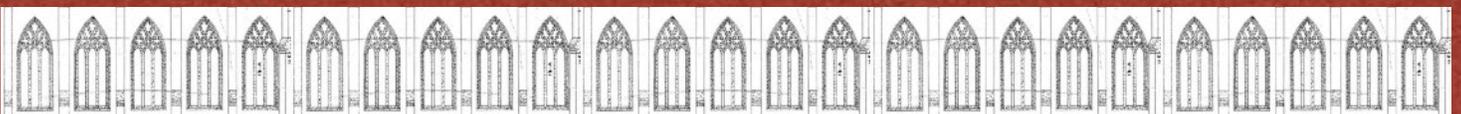
Our website is primarily the repository of reference data (Mass and confession times, etc), as well as an easy place to download the bulletin and find links to all our other platforms. The monitors at the entrances to the Church share highlights from the bulletin each week, as well as important reference information which used to be taped to the wall.

Do you remember the days when the only way you communicated with the parish was by listening to endless announcements at Mass or reading a typed bulletin run off on a mimeograph machine?

We have witnessed so much progress in communication in our day. May we carefully and enthusiastically use it to proclaim the Gospel to our age!

In the Lord,

Monsignor Moroney





REFLECTIONS ON THE COLLECT

BY DANIEL MORRISSEY



The Collect for this Seventeenth Week in Ordinary Time starts off by addressing God as the “protector of those who hope in you, without whom nothing has firm foundation, nothing is holy.” In other words, without God holding all things in existence, nothing is certain or lasting. Not only that, but without God we cannot be holy nor even good. Our hope for absolutely everything must be in God. We start our prayer off this week by recognizing our complete dependence upon our heavenly Father.

We then ask for the grace to “use the good things that pass in such a way as to hold fast even now to those that endure.” Every good thing in this passing world then should serve the purpose of helping us attain what is certain and lasting, namely, God and heaven. What we are asking God for here is to begin to live our heavenly lives right now while still living our earthly lives because “you are no longer strangers and sojourners, but you are fellow citizens with the holy ones and members of the household of God.” (Eph 2:19) In short, we need to adopt a heavenly and eternal perspective.

How do we do this? Through prayer. It’s only through a life of prayer that our minds can immerse themselves in spiritual and eternal realities. At the turn of the century, St. John Paul II wrote, “our Christian communities must become *genuine "schools" of prayer*, where the meeting with Christ is expressed not just in imploring help but also in thanksgiving, praise, adoration, contemplation, listening and ardent devotion, until the heart truly "falls in love". (NMI 33) Prayer isn’t just intercessory, as St. John Paul II mentions, but takes on many forms that put us into contact with the living God. If we don’t have a life of deep prayer these days, the secular world will steal the little faith we have. Therefore, prayer is of utmost importance.

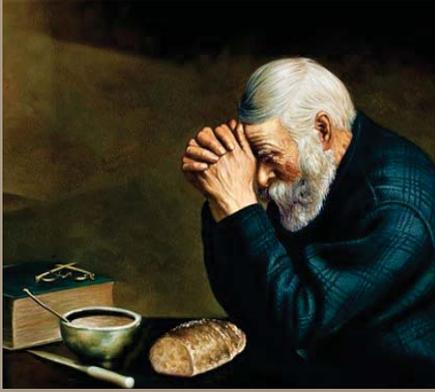
How can we begin to deepen our lives of prayer and begin to see things through that heavenly perspective? I’ve recognized over the years that many people don’t always know how to pray and quite frankly, it’s okay if that’s where you are! There are lots of good books on Catholic prayer out there that I would recommend, but I’d also suggest asking your priests or other prayerful Catholics you know for some tips. This can indeed be helpful, but the greatest thing to do is to start praying! Liturgical prayer like Mass, as well as devotions such as the rosary are great prayers if we sincerely pray the words with attention, directing them to God and meaning it from our hearts. This can be a game changer!

However, my biggest recommendation would be to set aside a time and place each day for personal prayer and commit to it. To pray in this way means speaking to God from your heart, being honest with him in everything. Tell him what is on your heart, be it the joys, sorrows, hopes or frustrations. Don’t be afraid to reveal your heart to him; he cares about you. After speaking to him, take time to listen. This is the hardest part. But you’ll know when he speaks. Lastly, pray with Scripture. This is his word to you. Praying while immersed in the Scriptures is where the heavenly perspective is formed. Therefore, “Do not conform yourselves to this age but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that you may discern . . . what is good and pleasing and perfect.” (Rom 12:2)

Daniel Morrissey



PRAY WITH US!



Pray for all who are sick, and especially for: Priscilla Comeau, John Nelson, 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 \$6,632.



The Family of
Evelyn Delia Tourigny
at her Baptism

The St. Vincent de Paul Society is in Need of Your Help!
**They require our help to continue assisting local families
and individuals in their time of emergency.**



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With rising costs of food, rent, fuel, electricity, etc. the overwhelming number of calls has almost depleted their funds. Pictured above are just some of the ways they provide assistance. Please consider making a donation in one of the donation boxes located at each church entrance, or drop off or send by mail to the rectory to the Attention of the St. Vincent de Paul Society. All donations are greatly needed and appreciated!

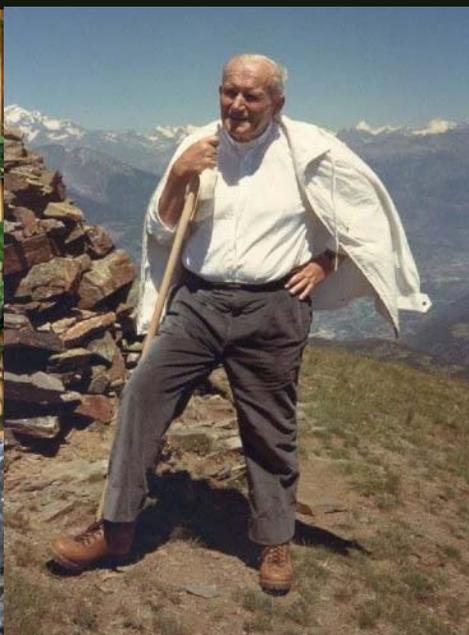
ON VACATION

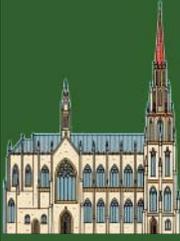
In this summer period many have left the city and find themselves at tourist sites or in their homeland for their vacations. My wish for them is that this awaited rest serves to strengthen their mind and body, which, given the hectic course of modern existence, daily undergoes a continuous fatigue and strain.

The holidays also afford a precious opportunity to spend more time with relatives, to visit family and friends, in a word, to give more space to those human contacts whose desired cultivation is impeded by the rhythm of daily duties.

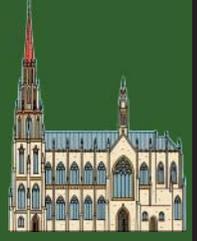
For many, vacation time becomes a profitable occasion for cultural contacts, for prolonged moments of prayer and of contemplation in contact with nature or in monasteries and religious structures. Having more free time, one can dedicate oneself more easily to conversation with God, meditation on Sacred Scripture and reading some useful, formative book. Those who experience this spiritual repose know how useful it is not to reduce vacations to mere relaxation and amusement.

Pope Benedict XVI





THIS WEEK AT SAINT CECILIA



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)

Monday July 28 Weekday in Ordinary Time

9:00am Mass for Pauline Allain, by Kevin and Michele Mack, Simard FH (Chapel)
 3:00pm Rosary and Divine Mercy Novena (Chapel)

Tuesday July 29 Saints Martha, Mary and Lazarus

9:00am Mass for Emile Doiron (1st anniv.), by his wife and family (Chapel)
 3:00pm Rosary and Divine Mercy Novena (Chapel)

Wednesday July 30 Weekday in Ordinary Time

9:00am Mass for Georgette Beliveau, by Wil (Chapel)
 Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament follows Mass - Benediction at Noon (Chapel)
 3:00pm Rosary and Divine Mercy Novena (Chapel)
6:00pm Mass for Katherine Hirsch, by Kevin and Michele Mack, Brandon FH (Chapel)
 6:30pm Confessions (Church)
 7:00pm Rosary (Chapel)
 7:30pm Introduction to Catholicism for Young Adults (Rectory)

Thursday July 31 Saint Ignatius of Loyola

9:00am Mass for Philip Anzalone, Jr., by a friend (Chapel)
 9:30am Confessions (Church)
 3:00pm Rosary and Divine Mercy Novena (Chapel)
 7:00-9:00pm Haitian Prayer Group (Chapel)

Friday August 1 Saint Alphonsus Liguori

9:00am Mass for Joseph J.D. LeBlanc, by Kevin and Michele Mack, Brandon FH (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 August 2 Weekday in Ordinary Time

9:00am Mass for Richard H.J. Brow, by last will (Chapel)
 9:30am Confessions (Church)

Saturday August 2 Vigil

Breaking Bread, page 196

3:00pm Confessions (Church)
4:00pm Mass for Eloi Richard (8th anniv.), by his family (Church)

Sunday August 3 Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Breaking Bread, page 196

7:00am Mass for Mary Louise Caron, by Debbie, Cheryl and Sue (Church)
9:45am Mass for Paul Aubuchon, by Richard and Lucille Roberge (Church)
11:15am Mass for Mary Pitre (50th anniv.), by Gerald McDonald and family (Church)
 6:00-8:00pm Sunday Night Card Players (Parish Center)



Saint Alphonsus Liguori



THANKS TO THESE SPONSORS WE ARE ABLE TO PROVIDE YOU WITH YOUR BULLETIN FREE EACH WEEK

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