

Saint Cecilia Parish

The Narrow Gate



WITH THE HELP OF SAINT CECILIA PASTORAL REFLECTIONS



I give over my column this week to Pope Leo and his message for the Fifth World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly.

Dear brothers and sisters,

The Jubilee we are now celebrating helps us to realize that hope is a constant source of joy, whatever our age. When that hope has also been tempered by fire over the course of a long life, it proves a source of deep happiness.

In the Bible, God repeatedly demonstrates his providential care by turning to people in their later years. This was the case not only with Abraham, Sarah, Zechariah and Elizabeth, but also with Moses, who was called to set his people free when he was already eighty years old (cf. Ex 7:7). God thus teaches us that, in his eyes, old age is a time of blessing and grace, and that the elderly are, for him, the first witnesses of hope. Augustine asks, “What do we mean by old age?” He tells us that God himself answers the question: “Let your strength fail, so that my strength may abide within you, and you can say with the Apostle, ‘When I am weak, then I am strong’” (Super Ps. 70,11). The increasing number of elderly people is a sign of the times that we are called to discern, in order to interpret properly this moment of history.

Embracing the elderly helps us to understand that life is more than just the present moment, and should not be wasted in superficial encounters and fleeting relationships. If it is true that the weakness of the elderly needs the strength of the young, it is equally true that the inexperience of the young needs the witness of the elderly in order to build the future with wisdom. How often our grandparents have been for us examples of faith and devotion, civic virtue and social commitment, memory and perseverance amid trials!

Given this situation, a change of pace is needed that would be readily seen in an assumption of responsibility on the part of the whole Church. Every parish, association and ecclesial group is called to become a protagonist in a “revolution” of gratitude and care, to be brought about by regular visits to the elderly, the creation of networks of support and prayer for them and with them, and the forging of relationships that can restore hope and dignity to those who feel forgotten. Christian hope always urges us to be more daring, to think big, to be dissatisfied with things the way they are. In this case, it urges us to work for a change that can restore the esteem and affection to which the elderly are entitled

Our affection for our loved ones – for the wife or husband with whom we have spent so much of our lives, for our children, for our grandchildren who brighten our days – does not fade when our strength wanes. Indeed, their own affection often revives our energy and brings us hope and comfort.

Especially as we grow older, let us press forward with confidence in the Lord. May we be renewed each day by our encounter with him in prayer and in Holy Mass. Let us lovingly pass on the faith we have lived for so many years, in our families and in our daily encounter with others. May we always praise God for his goodness, cultivate unity with our loved ones, open our hearts to those who are far away and, in particular, to all those in need. In this way, we will be signs of hope, whatever our age.

Leo P.P. XIV





SAINT CECILIA CEMETERY

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

It has been three years since our last price increase at Saint Cecilia's Cemetery. In the interest of keeping up with rising prices, we are introducing the following modest increase in prices and fees effective immediately. **Parishioners (anyone with a copy of this bulletin), however, may still purchase at the old prices for the next week (until September 1, 2025).**

Thank you for your support of our beautiful cemetery, where our beloved deceased wait in joyful hope for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

In the Lord,

Monsignor Moroney



NEW PRICES AND FEES

PURCHASE OF THE RIGHT TO BURIAL

1 Grave Lot	WAS \$1,100	NEW PRICE \$1,200
2 Grave Lot	WAS \$2,200	NEW PRICE \$2,400
4 Grave Lot	WAS \$4,400	NEW PRICE \$4,800

ADDITIONAL RIGHT TO BURIAL

WAS \$450	NEW PRICE \$600
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INTERMENT (No change in interment prices.)

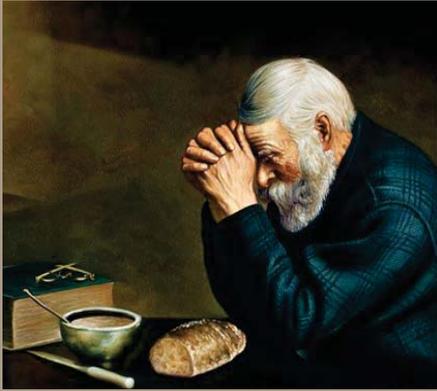
Full Body	\$1,000 (Monday-Friday)	\$1,200 (Saturday and holidays)
Cremated Remains	\$600	\$800 (Saturday and holidays)

FOUNDATION (No change in foundation prices.)

\$100 per square foot

WINTER FEE (December 1 through March 31st)

\$200	NEW PRICE \$350
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PRAY WITH US!

Pray for all who are sick, and especially for: Mark Rohoc, Lisa Stacy, Steve Augat, Lindsey Booth, Judith Melanson, John Nelson, Claudette Guilmette, Wayne G., Stephanie St. G., Christina Fernet, Claudette Lucas, Klye Eaton, Rita Churri and John LaFortune.

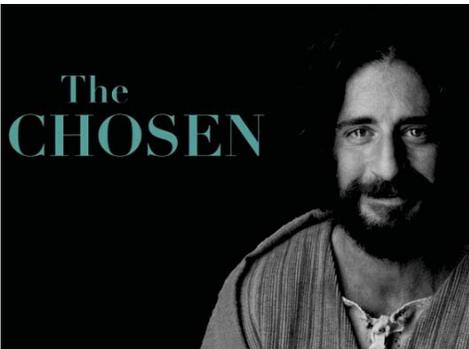
Join us in praying for those who have died recently especially; John Cosby and Rachel P. Sirianni. Pray for their families, as well, that they may be consoled by the promises of Christ.

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 \$8,962.



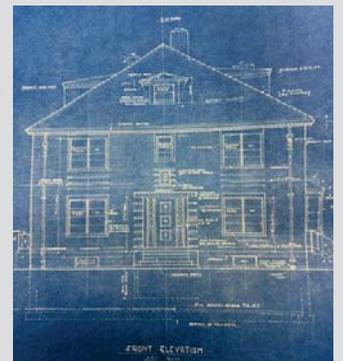
The CHOSEN



We will be starting up our Bible Study in September. Our study will be on "The Chosen", a groundbreaking television series about the life of Jesus. What does it actually mean to be chosen? Let's find out as we delve into the Old Testament leading to the New Testament, which leads us to Jesus. We will begin this study on Thursday, September 11th at the Parish Center from 9:30am to 11:00am and repeated that same evening from 6:00pm to 7:30pm. Please contact Pat Secino at the Rectory at 978-537-6541 or email psecino@stceciliachurch.net and let her know what time works best for you.

WHERE IT ALL BEGAN!

While the completion of the church in 1933 and the renovation in the 1950s were the major building projects during the time of the previous two pastors, the rectory and convent needed much work and repair. Monsignor Gravel decided to replace the original house that served as a rectory since 1901. Many different architects submitted plans and Albert J. Roy was the architect of record. The rectory has both office space and living quarters. The construction of the new rectory was completed on June 27, 1955. The rectory is now configured with 5 priest suites and 2 guest rooms and includes a newly created chapel.





Registrations for this year's Religious Education Program have been mailed out. The first day of classes for **Grades 2-6 is Sept. 14th**; **Grades 7-10 Sept. 15th**; **Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Sept. 21st**. For those receiving a sacrament this year you will

need to attend additional sacramental classes besides the Sunday/ Monday classes. If you have moved, are new to the parish or I mistakenly forgot to mail one out to you (sorry!)

If you attend a parochial school and looking to receive the sacraments of Holy Communion, Reconciliation (usually 2nd graders) or Confirmation (usually 10th graders) please reach out to me to register your child(ren) for just the sacramental preparation classes.

Please reach out to me, Paula, call 978-537-5596 or e-mail pd@stceciliachurch.net and I will get a registration out to you!

Helping our children grow in their faith journey can be so rewarding! Can you help?

This coming year I need someone to share their faith with our 6th Grade children. Our program would also benefit with assistants in the classrooms, especially Catechesis of the Good Shepherd, and substitute teachers on Sunday mornings. If you are feeling a tug on your heart and would like more information, please call Paula at 978-537-5596 or e-mail me at pd@stceciliachurch.net



Mark Your Calendar!

St. Cecilia's Christmas in Acadia Fair

**Friday, Nov. 14
5-8pm**

**Saturday, Nov. 15
12-6pm**



2025						
NOVEMBER						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22

Consider setting items aside for our Christmas in Acadia Flea Market.

We will be happy to receive any holiday decorations, dishes, knickknacks, religious items, sports memorabilia, DVDs, toys, canning jars, jewelry, pocket books, books (children's only), etc.

Please note, we cannot accept computers, monitors, televisions, electrical appliances, padded furniture, VHS tapes, cassettes, stuffed animals, clothing or shoes. We are unable to take large furniture. If it doesn't fit in your car, please don't bring it.

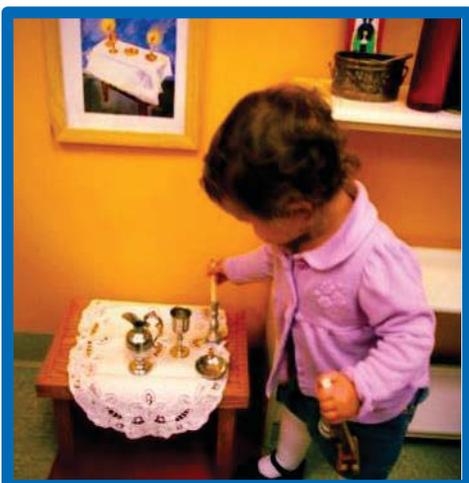


Upcoming drop off times:

Saturday, Sept. 6th from 9:30am-12:30pm

Monday, Sept. 8th from 5:00-7:00pm

All donations are to be dropped off at the parish center (use lower Third St. and Mechanic St. side door across from the church).



CATECHESIS OF THE GOOD
SHEPHERD

***For Children Ages 4-6
What is an Atrium?
Come Visit ours and find out!***

OPEN HOUSE

*After all Masses
September 6th & 7th
in the Parish Center
3rd Floor Room 11*

All families and children are invited to visit our Atrium, a sacred space designed especially for young children. Catechesis of the Good Shepherd is a religious education program that helps children develop a deep and personal relationship with Jesus, the Good Shepherd and a love for Scripture and the Sacraments.



YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO JOIN US FOR THE
PARISH MINISTRY AWARDS BANQUET
IN CELEBRATION OF THE SEVENTY FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF
THE DIOCESE OF WORCESTER

On Friday, September 26th at 5:30pm, Bishop McManus will be hosting a PARISH MINISTRY AWARDS BANQUET at the DCU Centre Ballroom in Worcester.

We are delighted to announce that three of our most outstanding parish ministers will be honored on this night:

JEANNINE BRIDEAU WILFRID GARIEPY BETTYANN HARRINGTON

While we have so many dedicated people involved in scores of ministries, we know you will want to join us in thanking these three outstanding parishioners for their decades of dedication to the mission of Saint Cecilia Parish.

The evening will begin with a cocktail reception at 5:30pm, followed by the dinner and presentation of awards. Tickets are \$75 per person or \$650 for a table of ten. If you can join us for this evening, please return this form in the collection basket or to the Rectory by Friday, September 5th.

YES, I will attend the
75th ANNIVERSARY MINISTRY AWARDS BANQUET
ON FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 26th
AT 5:30PM
IN THE DCU CENTRE BALLROOM IN WORCESTER

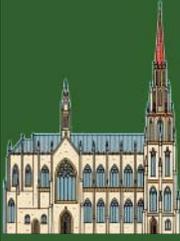
Please reserve _____ seats for my group.

Please include payment of \$75 per person
and indicate food preference for each person
(BREAST OF CHICKEN, BAKED COD or VEGAN LASAGNA)

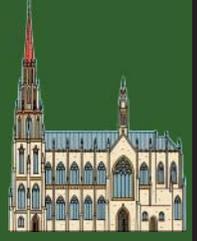
I would like to sponsor a table of ten for \$650.

Please include payment of \$650 per table
and indicate food preference for each person
(BREAST OF CHICKEN, BAKED COD or VEGAN LASAGNA)

Saint Cecilia parish will sponsor one table for the honorees and their guests.



THIS WEEK AT SAINT CECILIA



Saturday August 23 Vigil *Breaking Bread, page 206*

3:00pm Confessions (Church)
4:00pm Mass for John Leger, by the Leger family (Church)

Sunday August 24 Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time *Breaking Bread, page 206*

7:00am Mass for John Amico, by the family (Church)
9:45am Mass for Anita Frechette, by Austin and Debby Courtney (Church)
11:15am Mass for Joseph J.D. LeBlanc, by Mrs. Yvette Richard and Rose Richard (Church)
 6:00-8:00pm Sunday Night Card Players (Parish Center)

Monday August 25 Weekday in Ordinary Time

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

Tuesday August 26 Weekday in Ordinary Time

9:00am Mass for the Special Intention of Genevieve Marie Maillet LeBlanc, by Hernandez-Ortiz (Chapel)
 3:00pm Rosary and Divine Mercy Novena (Chapel)

Wednesday August 27 Saint Monica

9:00am Mass for Deceased members of Lionel and Noella Charpentier family, by Diane and Bob (Chapel)
 Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament follows Mass - Benediction at Noon (Chapel)
 3:00pm Rosary and Divine Mercy Novena (Chapel)
6:00pm Mass for Raymond Leclerc, by his mother, Lorraine and brother, Richard (Chapel)
 6:30pm Confessions (Church)
 7:00pm Rosary (Chapel)

Thursday August 28 Saint Augustine

9:00am Mass for Howard and Peggy Barnaby, by Kathy (Chapel)
 9:30am Confessions (Church)
 3:00pm Rosary and Divine Mercy Novena (Chapel)
 7:00-9:00pm Haitian Prayer Group (Chapel)

Friday August 29 The Passion of Saint John the Baptist

9:00am Mass for Patrick J. Cannon, by Edwin J. Cannon (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 30 Weekday in Ordinary Time

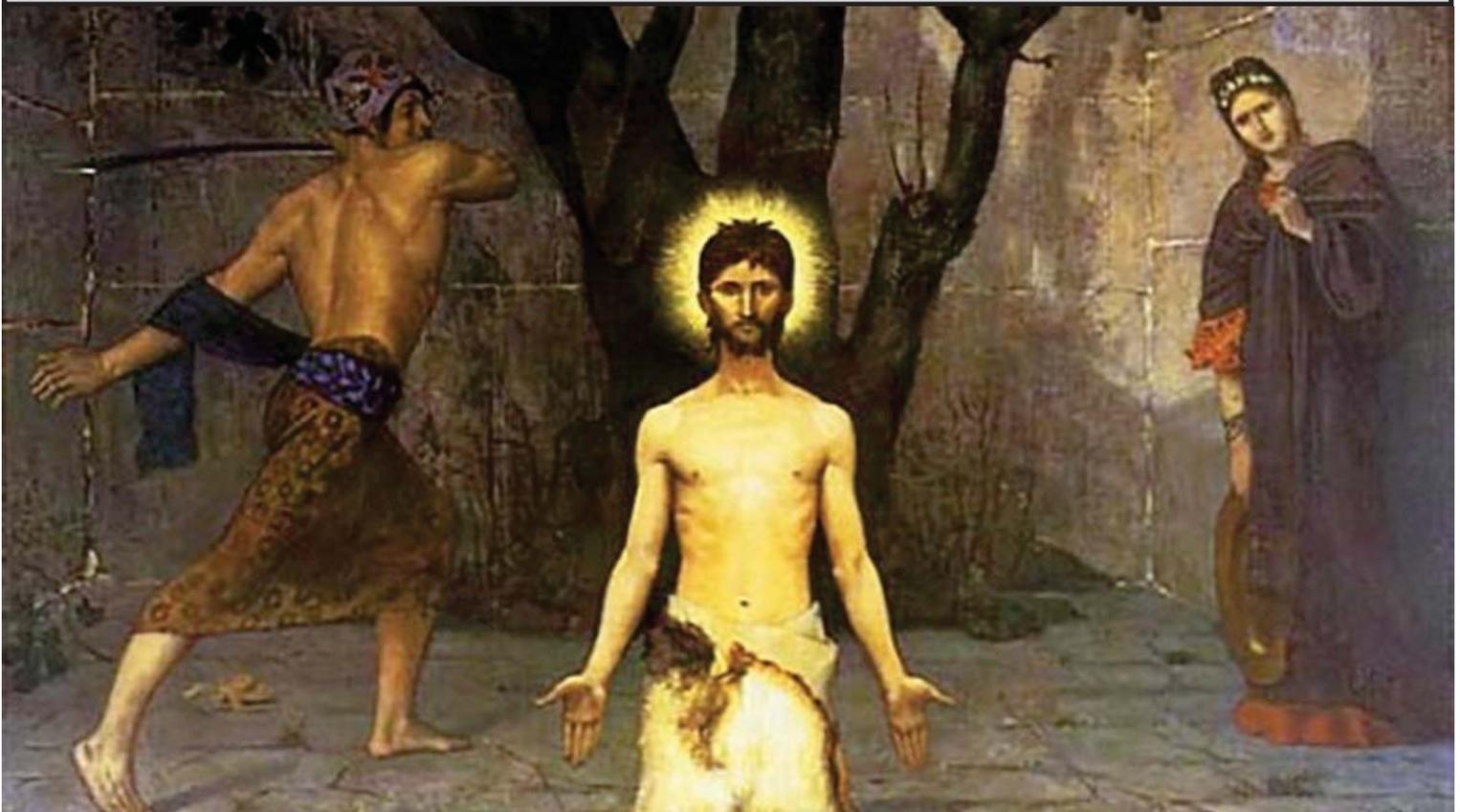
9:00am Mass for Pius Yun, by his family (Chapel)
 9:30am Confessions (Church)

Saturday August 30 Vigil *Breaking Bread, page 208*

3:00pm Confessions (Church)
4:00pm Mass for Walter and Theresa St. Onge, by the family (Church)

Sunday August 31 Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time *Breaking Bread, page 208*

7:00am Mass for Gerry and Beverly Lange, by Paul Melanson (Church)
9:45am Mass for Norman and Jeanette Robichaud, by Maria Babineau (Church)
11:15am Mass for Leon Gallagher, Jr. (20th anniv.), by his wife, Jeanne (Church)
 6:00-8:00pm Sunday Night Card Players (Parish Center)



"The Beheading of St. John the Baptist" (1869) by Pierre Puvis de Chavannes



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

FREE EACH WEEK

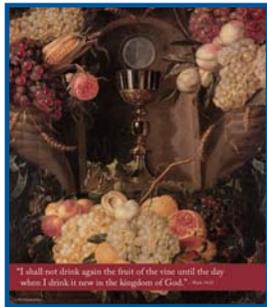
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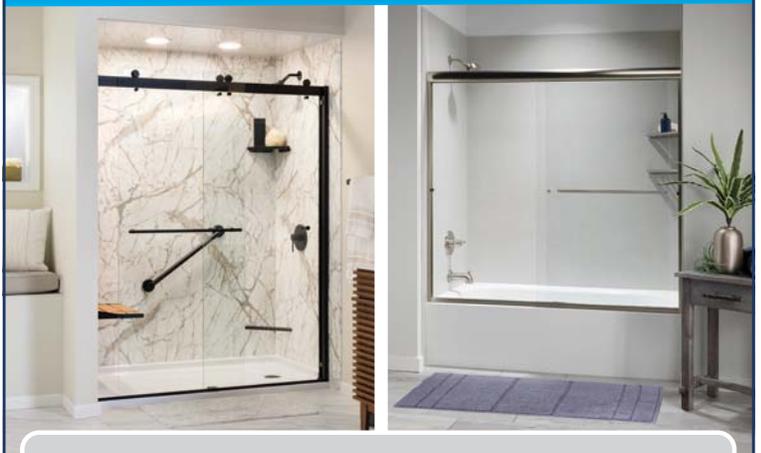
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