



Saint Cecilia Parish



WITH THE HELP OF SAINT CECILIA PASTORAL REFLECTIONS



Dear brothers and sisters,

Next weekend we celebrate our patronal solemnity of Saint Cecilia. Our celebration will be a bit subdued this year, since Bishop McManus is unable to join us and it falls on a Saturday. We will, nonetheless rejoice in the many blessings of our patron at the 9:00am Mass on Saturday morning.

The Novena to Saint Cecilia will be prayed at all the Masses, beginning today, and if you can't be at Mass each day, I encourage you to include the Novena in your private prayers each day.

Saint Cecilia has been venerated from the earliest days of the Church as a Roman martyr. She is the patron saint of musicians. Cecilia was born to Roman nobility and, due to her devotion to Christ, took a vow as a consecrated virgin. Her parents, however, were not Christians and forced her to marry a pagan nobleman named Valerian.

During her wedding reception, Saint Cecilia broke away to pray to God, singing Psalms and inspired hymns. That night, an angel appeared to Valerian and urged him to respect Cecilia's virginity. When Valerian told his bride of the vision, she was inspired to instruct him to go to the third milestone on the Via Appia, where he would see the same angel and be baptized by the Bishop of Rome, Pope Urban I. When Valerian arrived at the spot, he had a vision of Cecilia. The angel was standing above her, crowning Cecilia with a circlet of roses and lilies.

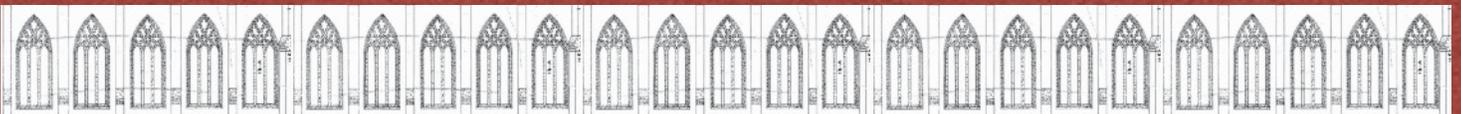
Valerian was martyred shortly after his Baptism, along with Cecilia's brother. When Cecilia was taken into custody, she freely confessed her belief in Jesus and was sentenced to death. Three times the swordsman tried to behead her, but afterwards she lived for three days, just as the body of her Lord lay for three days in the tomb before his glorious Resurrection.

Her twenty-three year old body lay undisturbed in the catacombs of Saint Callistus on the Via Appia, until 1599 when her sarcophagus was opened. The famous artist Stefano Maderno was present and saw that her body was miraculously incorrupt. Maderno then produced a marble sculpture of the body of our patron, which rests above her tomb in the Church of Santa Cecilia in Trastevere today.

That sculpture was reproduced in wood by Edmund Rabunzer for our beloved Church and has been venerated here since 1984. Notice how, as she died, our beloved patron extended three fingers as she praised the Blessed Trinity with her dying breath. Saint Cecilia! Pray for us!

In the Lord,

Monsignor Moroney



NOVENA TO SAINT CECILIA

Please join us in praying
this novena each day until
Saint Cecilia's Feast Day,
November 22nd.



LITANY

Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

God our Father in heaven
God the Son, Redeemer of the world
God the Holy Spirit
Holy Trinity, one God

Have mercy on us.
Have mercy on us.
Have mercy on us.
Have mercy on us.

St. Cecilia
Chaste and holy virgin
Singer of holy canticles
Apostle of purity and virtue
Apostle of zeal
Apostle of charity
Aflame with divine love
Illustrious martyr of Christ
Accompanied by an angel
Protected from the sword
Consolation of the afflicted,
Patron of musicians
Inspiration of composers

Pray for us.
Pray for us.

You gave voice to the celestial harmonies Pray for us.
You taught us to sing God's praises Pray for us.
By your example you converted your spouse Pray for us.
You won for him the crown of martyrdom Pray for us.
You moved the hearts of pagans Pray for us.
You shared in the Savior's Passion Pray for us.
After three days you shared in his glory Pray for us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world
Have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world
Have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world
Grant us peace.

NOVENA PRAYER TO SAINT CECILIA

O God, who gladden us
each year with the feast day
of your handmaid, Saint
Cecilia, grant, we pray,
that we might imitate her
example of purity and faith
and sing your praises in all
that we say and do.

Hear our petitions.
(pause in silence)

May the Blessed Cecilia
bring them before your
throne where all the saints
and angels sing your
praises, God, forever and
ever. Amen.



A LETTER FROM OUR SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY



Dear Fellow Saint Cecilia Parishioners,

We, the Saint Cecilia Conference of Saint Vincent dePaul, sometimes wonder if our faithful benefactors every wonder where and how we spend the contributions we receive from the poor boxes placed around the church and in the Bingo kitchen. Well, although this month of October has been busier than ever we thought we would give you a glimpse into the calls we received and how we responded.

Oct 1st - Rent payment for family of 3 whose main income provider had his work hours reduced to 20 hours per week-\$1250.00 paid to landlord.

Oct 2nd - Request for partial rent payment for person facing eviction-\$750 paid to landlord.

Oct 3rd - 3 nights at local motel for 9 month pregnant woman and 6 year old son who had no where to go \$473.46-paid to Motel 6.
- 1 night extension at motel for pregnant woman and child to span gap until emergency services began \$134.03-paid to Motel 6.

Oct 6th - Utility payment to avoid electric shutoff for couple living in Leominster. Husband was just released from a mental health facility and wife works from home on computer-\$522.17-paid to Nationalgrid. - Car repair bill for mother of 3 children on the spectrum (second repair paid by us this year)-\$337.74-paid to garage making repairs.

Oct 15th - Oil delivery for family of 4 unable to afford oil and awaiting fuel assistance-\$419.90 (completely out of oil-system had to be primed)-paid to oil dealer.

Oct 16th - Oil delivery for family reduced to one income due to injury-\$320-paid to oil dealer.

Oct 17th - Partial rent payment for family facing eviction for non-payment due to unemployment. Person asking for help had just found a new job. \$500-paid to landlord.
- Homeless family of 4 awaiting placement in shelter-motel room for 2 nights-\$275.08-paid to Motel 6.

Oct 20th - Gas money for couple stranded in Leominster after working a day job here, needed fuel to get back to New Hampshire \$50 gas card.

Oct 23rd - Oil delivery for family of 4 whose main wage earner had just found a job after training at a health agency \$329.90-paid to oil dealer.

Oct 25th - Oil delivery for elderly man living in Leominster awaiting fuel assistance-\$284.90-paid to oil dealer.

Oct 27th - Help with overdue electric bill for unemployed person who called originally asking for assistance with rent but amount was more than we could pay-\$232.67 paid to Nationalgrid.

- Oil delivery for mother with 2 small children whose husband is deployed and receives no income due to government shutdown \$319.97-paid to oil dealer.

Oct 28th - Oil delivery for person whose tank was very low and unable to pay while awaiting fuel assistance-\$319.90-paid to oil dealer.

Oct 31st - Motel stay for homeless person living in car who just trained for job as a van driver. Wanted to be able to shower and be ready for first day of work \$273.64-paid to Motel 6.

- Emergency food delivery for family. Mother got out of hospital today, father is disabled, son is on spectrum. Call came from DSS worker. Food delivery very kindly discounted from local pizza shop \$28.70-paid to Paisanos.

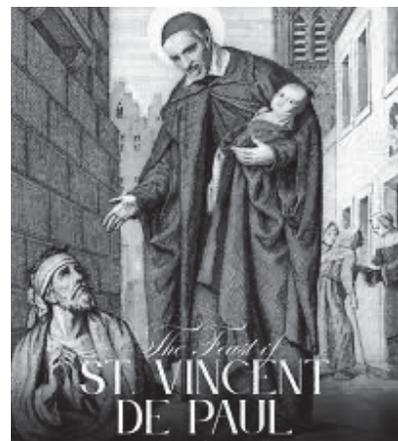
These are not all the requests we received, there were several more rent help requests that we were unable to help with because the amounts were more than we could afford..

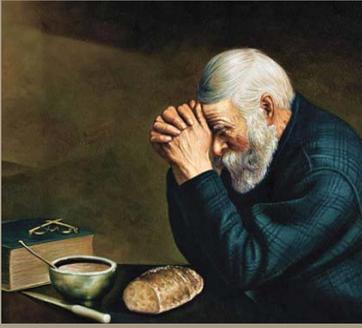
As we stated at the beginning, the month of October was busier than a typical month, although in truth, there is no such thing as a typical month. Normally in the summer our requests are less frequent so we are able to put money aside for months like this.

The bottom line is that we would be unable to help at all if it were not for the kind and generous parishioners of Saint Cecilia Parish who support us. When thanked by those we help we always make a point of saying we could not do it without you. God bless you all!

Please keep us in your prayers,

The Saint Cecilia Conference
of the Saint Vincent dePaul Society





PRAY WITH US!

Pray for all who are sick, and especially for: John Richard, Barbara Casey, Al Lamoureux, Connie Aubuchon, Ann Murphy, Helen St. Germaine, Janet Baron, Rosemarie (Albert) Orr, Mark Rohoc, Lisa Stacy, Steve Augat and Lindsey Booth.

Join us in praying for those who have died recently, especially; Arthur DeVarney, Jr. and Wayne Gariepy. 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 \$12,597.

"...Rather, we wanted to present ourselves as a model for you, so that you might imitate us." (2 THESSALONIANS 3:9)

Most people who live a grateful and generous lifestyle don't go around bragging about it. But through their words and actions, others do take notice. They notice because of the joy and peace that results and others desire this in their own life. Know that the way you live your life may be the only interaction others may have with our Catholic faith.



HOW TO INVITE PEOPLE TO CHURCH

**Tell them what Mass means to you.
Invite them for a particular Sunday.
Sit with them and explain things to them.**

Give them a ride or meet them in the parking lot.

Introduce them to potential new friends.

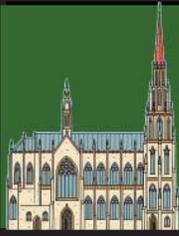
If you can, go to lunch with them afterwards.

Take any "no" as a "not right now."

PILGRIMS' PROGRESS

Last week our hearty Jubilee Pilgrims made their way to seven of the pilgrimage churches throughout the diocese, praying for you along the way!





THIS WEEK AT SAINT CECILIA



Saturday November 15 Vigil

Breaking Bread, page 232

3:00pm Confessions (Church)

4:00pm Mass for Rickie Daigle (44th anniv.), by the family (Church)

Sunday November 16 The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica

Breaking Bread, page 232

7:00am Mass for Angele Vincent (1st anniv.), by Nicole and Val Goguen (Church)

9:30-11:00am OCIA Group Meeting (Rectory)

9:45am Mass for Raymond P. LeBlanc, by the family (Church)

9:45-11:00am Religious Education for Catechesis of the Good Shepherd through Grade 6 (Parish Center)

11:15am Mass for Paul Hamel (15th anniv.), by his family (Church)

1:00 Baptism of Cora Christina Lyons (Church)

6:00-8:00pm Sunday Night Card Players (Parish Center)

Monday November 17 Saint Elizabeth of Hungary

9:00am Mass for Ernest and Jeannette Aubuchon and all deceased family members, by Robert and Diane (Chapel)

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

7:00-8:15pm Religious Education for Grades 7 through 10 (Parish Center)

Tuesday November 18 Weekday in Ordinary Time

9:00am Mass for In thanksgiving for 54th Anniversary of Jack and Linda Kinsey, by Linda (Chapel)

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

Wednesday November 19 Weekday in Ordinary Time

9:00am Mass for Victor Amenta, Jr. (5th anniv.), by his wife, Carol (Chapel)

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament follows Mass - Benediction at Noon (Chapel)

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

6:00pm Mass for Father Michael J. Sheridan (1st anniv.) (Chapel)

6:30pm Confessions (Church)

7:00pm Rosary (Chapel)

Thursday November 20 Weekday in Ordinary Time

9:00am Mass for Judy Bergeron, by Anne Marie and Jean Noel Bernard (Chapel)

9:30am Confessions (Church)

9:30am Bible Study on The Chosen Series (Parish Center)

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

6:00pm Bible Study on The Chosen Series (Parish Center)

7:00-9:00pm Haitian Prayer Group (Chapel)

Friday November 21 The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

9:00am Mass for Freda Maldari, by Linda and John Sheehan (Chapel)
 Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament follows Mass - Benediction at Noon (Chapel)
 3:00pm Rosary and Divine Mercy Novena (Chapel)
 6:30pm BINGO Doors Open at 4:00pm; Games start at 6:30pm (Parish Center)

Saturday November 22 Saint Cecilia

9:00am Mass for Raymond Leclerc, by his wife, Lorraine and son, Richard Leclerc (Chapel)
 9:30am Confessions (Church)

Saturday November 22 Vigil *Breaking Bread, page 234*

3:00pm Confessions (Church)
4:00pm Mass for Phyllis and Tessa Tata, by a friend (Church)

Sunday November 23 Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe *Breaking Bread, page 234*

7:00am Mass for Mr. & Mrs. James E. Provo, by their children (Church)
 9:30-11:00am OCIA Group Meeting (Rectory)
9:45am Mass for Judy Renda (4th anniv.), by her family (Church)
 9:45-11:00am Religious Education for Catechesis of the Good Shepherd through Grade 6 (Parish Center)
11:15am Mass for Zachary Constant (13th anniv.), by Mom and Dad (Church)
 1:00 Baptism of Summer Ryan Boucher and Chase Adam Boucher (Church)
 6:00-8:00pm Sunday Night Card Players (Parish Center)





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