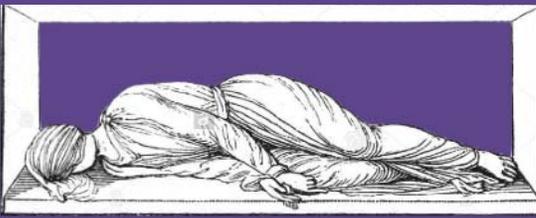




Saint Cecilia Parish



WITH THE HELP OF SAINT CECILIA PASTORAL REFLECTIONS



Dear brothers and sisters,

In just a few short days, we will once again celebrate Christmas, the timeless solemnity of God's ever-newborn love for us.

As I was watching the wonderful Nativity Play last week, I was struck by God's perennial love. Each generation hears the story of how the Son of the Living God through whom all things were made let go of his omnipotence and became a little baby in a feed-box (that's what manger means!) out of love for us!

As I looked at the latest incarnation of Mary and Joseph, the shepherds and the angels acting out the events of that blessed night, I recalled how the many nativity plays of the dear Sisters of decades ago planted the seed of the Silent Night in the hearts of those children, as well.

Here's a photo of some of the children in the First Communion Class from seventy years ago.



Compare them to the children of our Nativity Play, last week. Some things never change. And we thank God for that. His love is everlasting, and so is the story he uses to draw us into the wonders of that love.

I am also very grateful to Peter Inzerillo and the Fugue of the Montachusett Chorale for helping us to reflect on this greatest story ever told in Lessons and Carols last Sunday. Many of us were moved to tears and made ready for the solemn feasts which are now upon us.

Needless to say, Father Paul and I wish you and your families a most blessed and wondrous Christmas. May the Lord who was born in a manger for our salvation and who will return at the end of time to lead us home be born in your heart and in the hearts of all whom you love!

In the Lord,

Monsignor Moroney



A Year-End Gift from the Heart

As we enter these final weeks of the year, our hearts naturally turn toward giving—grateful for the greatest gift of all, the birth of Christ at Christmas. This is also a time when many families review their charitable contributions while preparing for the coming year's taxes. We invite you to prayerfully consider making a year-end gift to our beloved Saint Cecilia Parish. Your generosity strengthens our ministries, supports our parish family, and helps us continue proclaiming the Gospel with joy. Thank you for all the ways you share your blessings with our community.

Perhaps a donation to help keep us warm this winter

Heating all three parish buildings during December alone costs more than **\$23,000**. Your gift can make a real difference in meeting this essential need.

Perhaps a donation to assist with insurance and diocesan obligations

Each month, Saint Cecilia Parish pays **\$14,443** in Diocesan Insurance and Cathedraticum. Your support helps us meet these required responsibilities faithfully and on time.

Perhaps a donation toward our roofs, gutters, and tower

Over the past four years, we have invested more than **\$1 million** to water-proof our beloved church. After four years of work, the roofs and gutters are nearly complete, but the tower still awaits restoration. Your generosity will help us finish this crucial work.

**In all things, we trust in your prayers—
the greatest gift of all!**



----- **YEAR-END APPEAL RESPONSE FORM** -----



Dear Monsignor Moroney,

Please find enclosed my year-end donation to Saint Cecilia Parish. Please apply this donation to the following area(s):
(✓ Please check all that apply.)

- Heating Costs
- Diocesan Insurance & Cathedraticum Bills
- Gutters, Roofs, and Tower Restoration
- Wherever it is most needed

Name: _____

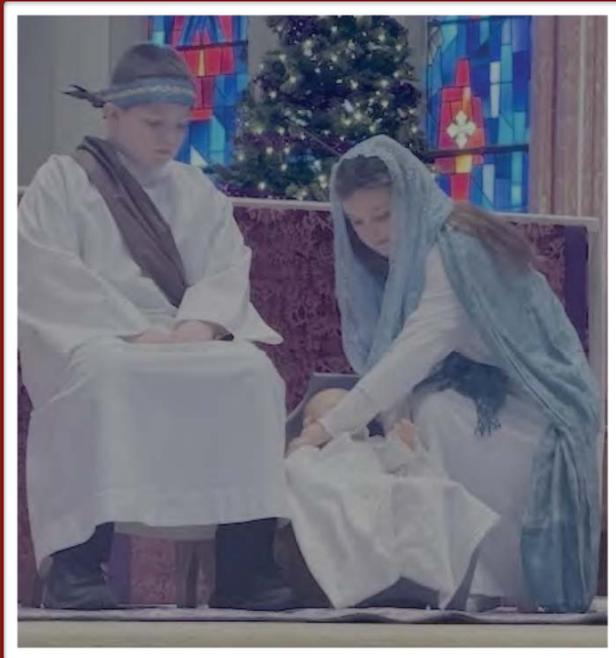
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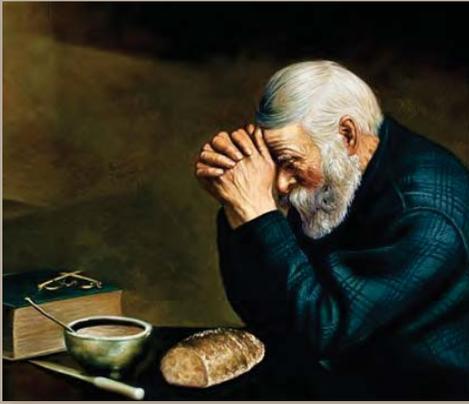
Thank you for your prayers and generosity!



**The Ladies of St Anne
want to thank all
members and guests
who attended and
enjoyed our Christmas
party! 121 women took
part in the great meal
and huge raffle. See
you next year!!**







PRAY WITH US!

Pray for all who are sick, and especially for: Richard L., Bob Allan, Harold LeBlanc, Emily, John Richard, Barbara Casey, Al Lamoureux, 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; Marie F. Blondin. 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.

COME HOME FOR CHRISTMAS

CHRISTMAS EVE MASSES **CHRISTMAS DAY MASSES**
4pm and MIDNIGHT 9:45am and 11:15am

WELCOME HOME TO SAINT CECILIA CHURCH!

**LAST WEEKEND'S
PARISH COLLECTIONS
TOTALLED \$8,280.**

St. Cecilia's January Calendar Raffle, thirty-one days of prizes ranging from \$100 to \$1,000 in cash and or gift cards totaling \$5,000! Gift one to someone, or buy one for yourself. Each calendar is \$15 or three for \$40. Calendars can be purchased at the parish office Monday through Friday from 10am to 3pm, at Friday Night Bingo or give us a call at 978-537-6541 for more information. Drawings will be held on Wednesdays, first drawing January 7th and will be streamed on our parish website and Facebook page.

Good Luck to All!

Holy, Holy

[Mass for Advent & Lent]

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Lord God of Hosts. Heav - en and earth are
full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the
high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Music © 2011 by David Lasky

Mystery of Faith

[Mass for Advent & Lent]

David Lasky

When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we pro -
claim your death, O Lord, un - til you come a - gain.

Great Amen

Cantor:
A - men, A - men, A - - men!
All:
A - men, A - men, A - - men!

Music © 2011 by David Lasky

Agnus Dei

[Chant]

Graduale Romanum, 1974

A - gnus De - i, qui tol - lis pec ca ta mun - di: mi - se - re - re no - bis.
A - gnus De - i, qui tol - lis pec ca ta mun - di: mi - se - re - re no - bis.
A - gnus De - i, qui tol - lis pec ca ta mun - di: do - na no - bis pa - cem.

MUSIC FOR ADVENT



THIS WEEK AT SAINT CECILIA



Saturday December 20 Vigil *Breaking Bread, page 42*

3:00pm Confessions (Church)
4:00pm Mass for Martha Eagle (21st anniv.), by the Daigle family (Church)

Sunday December 21 Fourth Sunday of Advent *Breaking Bread, page 42*

7:00am Mass for Clarence Quiet, by the family (Church)
 9:30-11:00am OCIA Group Meeting (Rectory)
9:45am Mass for Aline (60th anniv.) and Danny (36th anniv.) Albert, 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 Wilfred Richard (16th anniv.), by Anne Marie and Jean Noel (Church)
 6:00-8:00pm Sunday Night Card Players (Parish Center)

Monday December 22 Advent Weekday

9:00am Mass for Wayne Gariepy, by Wil (Chapel)
 3:00pm Rosary and Divine Mercy Novena (Chapel)
 7:00-8:15pm Religious Education for Grades 7 through 10 (Parish Center)

Tuesday December 23 Advent Weekday

9:00am Mass for Betty Shepard, by Wil Gariepy (Chapel)
 3:00pm Rosary and Divine Mercy Novena (Chapel)

Wednesday December 24 Vigil of Christmas *Breaking Bread, page 43*

9:00am Mass for Joseph J.D. LeBlanc, by his wife and family (Chapel)
 Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament follows Mass - Benediction at Noon (Chapel)
 3:00pm Rosary and Divine Mercy Novena (Chapel)
4:00pm Mass for Alfred Laverdiere (32nd anniv.), by his children (Church)
 NO 6:00pm Mass, Confessions or Rosary Today
MIDNIGHT Mass for Monsignor Francis Goguen and Father Robert Brusio (Church)

Thursday December 25 Christmas *Breaking Bread, page 50*

NO 7:00am Mass, Confessions or Rosary Today
9:45am Mass for Thomas McDermott, III (36th anniv.), by Mom and Dad (Church)
11:15am Mass for Andrew Zephir (15th anniv.), by Joan and Doug Romano and family (Church)
 7:00-9:00pm Haitian Prayer Group (Chapel)



Friday December 26 Saint Stephen

9:00am Mass for Eva Daigle (25th anniv.), by Anne Marie and Roger Goguen (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 December 27 Saint John

9:00am Mass for Richard McGrath (30th day), by Carla McGrath (Chapel)
 9:30am Confessions (Church)

Saturday December 27 Vigil

Breaking Bread, page 53

3:00pm Confessions (Church)
4:00pm Mass for All Souls in Purgatory (Church)

Sunday December 28 The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph *Breaking Bread, page 53*

7:00am Mass for Leo Bolduc (9th anniv.), by his nephew, Larry Gladding (Church)
 9:30-11:00am OCIA Group Meeting (Rectory)
9:45am Mass for Danny Gould (32nd anniv.), by Millie and Ryan (Church)
 No Religious Education Classes Today
11:15am Mass for Beverly Sherwin Farias (4th anniv.), by Anne Marie and Jean Noel Bernard (Church)
 6:00-8:00pm Sunday Night Card Players (Parish Center)





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FREE EACH WEEK

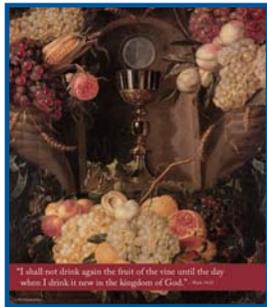
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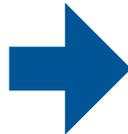
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