

Saint Cecilia Parish

90 Church Street
Rockaway, New Jersey 07866

Parish Office: 973-627-0313 Website: st-cecilia.org — Office: stcec@optonline.net
To Contact: Fr. Zig: Ext. 12 or speplowski@optonline.net
Fr. Matt: Ext 15 or frmateuszdarlak@gmail.com

Fax: 973-627-4811

School: 973-627-6003

CCD Office: 973-627-0313 Ext. 17

Rev. Sigmund Peplowski
PASTOR

Rev. Mateusz Darlak
PAROCHIAL VICAR

Mrs. Janet Maulbeck
BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR
and YOUTH PROTECTION/
SAFE ENVIRONMENT
COORDINATOR

Mr. James Clancy
DIRECTOR OF FAITH FORMATION

Mrs. Jaime Ann Patel
PRINCIPAL

Mrs. Diane Boykow
CEMETERY ADMINISTRATOR

Mr. Charles Linnell
MUSIC DIRECTOR



CERTIFICATE OF ELIGIBILITY

All Catholic Churches in the United States require from Catholics serving as a Godparent for Baptism or a sponsor for Confirmation a certificate of eligibility. This document certifies that the Godparent/sponsor is a registered member of the parish, attends Holy Mass, approaches the sacraments regularly and contributes to the support of the Church via the Sunday offering envelope program or "WeShare". It is the responsibility of the individual to meet these requirements as listed in the Code of Canon Law, #874.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Arrangements for the Sacrament of Baptism can be made by calling Fr. Matt at extension 15.

SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY

Arrangements are to be made at least ONE YEAR in advance. The date should not be set until the priest has been consulted.

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK

Urgent calls will be attended to at any time of the day or night. If there is anyone at home or in the hospital who cannot get to Mass and the Sacraments because of illness or old age, please inform one of the priests or call the Parish Office @ 973-627-0313.

EMERGENCY PHONE:
862-251-3914

MASSES

Saturday: 4:30 pm, 7:00 pm
Sunday: 8:00 am, 9:15 am
10:45 am and 12:15 pm
5:00 pm (Vietnamese)

Holydays

Vigil 4:30 pm
6:30 am, 8:00 am & 7:00 pm

Weekday Schedule:

Monday - Friday
6:30 am & 8:00 am

Saturday

8:00 am followed by Novena

Confessions

Saturday @ 3:30—4:00 pm &
6:15-6:45 pm (when Mass is
celebrated in the church) &
Monday during Holy Hour
7:00—8:00 pm

Ms. Susan Brennan
TRUSTEE

Mr. James Gallagher
TRUSTEE

PARISH PRAYER LIFE

NOVENA: OUR LADY OF THE MIRACULOUS MEDAL AND OUR LADY OF FATIMA

Saturday morning after the 8:00 am Mass

HOLY HOUR : Monday @ 7:00 pm

RCIA—RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION— FOR ADULTS:

Please contact Sr. Diane @ 973-627-0313 ext: 14

ROSARY PRAYER GROUP: Monday through Sat. @ 7:30 am

FEMININE GENIUS PROJECT: 1st & 3rd Saturday of the
month at 8:00 pm in the parish office.

ST. JOSEPH MEN'S GROUP: 2nd & 4th Saturday of the month
at 6:00 am in the parish office.

PADRE PIO PRAYER GROUP: 1st Wednesday of the month;
10:00 am in the church

ST. MONICA NOVENA: Last Saturday after 8:00 am Mass.

Parish Office Hours

Monday thru Thursday: 8:30 am to 4:00 pm
Friday: 8:30 am to 2:00 pm
Closed for lunch: 12:00 to 1:00

Monday, October 23, Saint John of Capistrano, Priest

6:30 am – Rose & Zigmund Peplowski req. by their sons

8:00 am – Manuel Sebastian req. by Carmen Faber

Tuesday, October 24, Saint Anthony Mary Claret, Bishop

6:30 am – For the service men and women listed in our bulletin

8:00 am – Clara Jozwiak

Wednesday, October 25, Weekday

6:30 am – Bob Berntsen req. by Joyce

8:00 am – John Brussell req. by the McDonnell Family

Thursday, October 26, Weekday

6:30 am – Helen Vitcusky req. by her daughter, Roberta

8:00 am – Linda Struble req. by Ag Struble & Family

Friday, October 27, Weekday

6:30 am – Joseph Lusardi req. by the Lusardi Family

8:00 am – Joshua George Egan req. by HIS Home-Base Community

Saturday, October 28, Saints Simon and Jude, Apostles

8:00 am – Rina & Alois M. Habjan

Sunday, October 29, Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:30 pm – Angela Goritski req. by Catherine Haynes

Terence Kelly req. by Ecanosti Family

7:00 pm – Departed Members of the Cables Family

8:00 am – Special Intention: 50th Wedding Anniversary of Susan & Anthony Nedo and Bernadette & Dennis McCoach

9:15 am – Glen Treslar req. by Stephen & Sandy Daingerfield

10:45 am – Marion Cables req. by Rich & Carol Takacs

Joseph Stango req. by DaSilva Family

12:15 pm – Vita Noto req. by her sister, Jean Asti

Thomas Compton req. by Gina & Michael Murphy

ST. CECILIA CHURCH COLLECTION GOALS**Week Ending : October 15, 2023**

Collection—Checks & Cash	\$ 8,245.00
WeShare Electronic Giving	\$ 5,014.00
Total Weekly Collection	\$ 13,259.00

Yearly Collection Goal (BUDGET)	\$ 785,000.00
Weekly Goal	\$ 14,038.46

Weekly Collection Surplus (Deficit)	\$ (779.46)
Year To Date Surplus (Deficit)	\$ (5,704.67)

HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION – The Solemnity of All Saints is commemorated on Wednesday November 1st. We will celebrate this Holy Day with the following Masses: Vigil Mass at 4:30 p.m. on Tuesday, October 31st; Wednesday, November 1st at 6:30 and 8:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

FATHER MATT – Father Matt will be on vacation visiting his family in Europe. We wish him good travels and anxiously await his return on October 25th.

Our Condolences to the Family of:

Carolyn Hetman

Eternal Rest Grant to them Lord

THANK YOU - Many thanks to Louise Naclerio for the donation of outdoor flowers and for the care that she gives to the flowers in front of the church and school. May God Bless her!

PRAY FOR THE SICK AND THEIR CAREGIVERS

Ethan Chandra, Dean Wayne Campbell, Doris Cusick, Jane Gorica, Sam Sessa, Karen Niles, Noel Wadleigh, David Cicchine, Teresa D'Atria, Derek Bascharow, Debbie Malc, Grace McDermott, Joe Horvath, Jr., Elvira Bugaoan, Owen Peter Byrne, Tia Maddaloni, Mason Walker Steussing, Susan Mejia, Derek Bascharow, Jim Rattay, Tom Hull, Kathleen Fazio, Kristin Wich, Kyle Johnson, Kate Darlington, Jake Michael Miraldi, Cheryl Anne Bornemann, Sean Nolan, Maryann Hughes, Peggy Eileen Miars, Ray Kennedy, Richard Corcoran, Madison Rose Leslie, Demetrius Barbee, Frances Finn, Dorothy Murray, Stephanie Lewis, Kimberly Dugan, Gale Sessa, Mike Murray, Helene Turner, Michael Turner, Ruben Lorenzo, Michael Alvarez, Mina Simmons-Jones, Joe Maulbeck, Mary Merz, Patricia Smith Schulman, Vincent Fortunato, Joyce Turner, Tom Cumiskey, Dennis O'Brien, Steven Simmons, Ariel, James DiStaiso, Marty Mackin, Brian Bosworth, Dennis Dilger, Robyne LaGrotta, Dave Lewis, Christopher Darlak, Frieda Solow, Claudia Fontanella, Claire Wasacz, Emilio Viola, James Deegan, Martha Salvesen, Ramiro Hinojosa, Jimmy Buckley, Emily Gatzke, Clare Desmond, Craig Huffman, George Stitik, Stephen Goordman, Cecilia Donofrio, Deidra Zink, Ray Wiest, Anthony Pane, Victoria Zuber, Keith Newman, Francis Sanchez, Raymond Fullam, Franco Maida, John Sandelli, Alan Zenkert, Fran Gatzke, Bob Nielsen, Gert Taylor, Walter Zelinski, Landon Wierks, Clo Callahan, Michael McClain, David Saggioli, Tommy Slockbower, Michael Hafke, Tyler Bascharow, Kevin R. Bruno, II, Larry Gatzke, Jeremiah O'Brien, Lanie Bruno, Ben Duphiney, Jill Breslin, Nick Auriemma, Joan Apgar, Richard Sala.



The people of St. Cecilia Parish are asked to pray for the following people serving our country in the armed services: **SmE3 Andrew Clifford,**

Joseph Giannetti US Navy, Lance Corporal Dennis Wuest, Capt. Kelley E. Robbins, Pvt USMC, Diego Usma, Major Glenn E. Martinez, Sgt. Brian Whalen, Capt. Anthony Odierno, Cpl. Kong V. Nguyen, Cpl. Jim Van Valen, LCPL Anthony Eresman, Sgt. Paul J. Willson, PFC Cano Janeth, Sgt. Bob Autrey, Col. William Paliwada, Sgt 1st Class (E7) Sam Colon, PFC Marylyn Rivera-Sachez, Cpl. Edward C. Thompson, Major Kevin M. Nash, Lt. Amy Cronin, Col. John L. Medeiros, Jr., Sgt. Daniel Healy, Marine Keith Leitner, Sgt. Spencer Lopez, PFC Taryn Kemp, Jeffrey Braunhausen, E7 Joseph Grimsey, Bill Maloney, Greg Bloete, Gian Carlo Bruzzese, Spc. Christopher Little, PFC Brittany Martindell, PO1 (E6) Matthew Fitzgerald, SA Justin C. White, Matthew & Daniel Rosica, Mark Leonard, Sr. Armn. Ashley Valetta, Sgt. John Wisnofsky, Cpl. T.J. Finn, Sgt. Kristopher Faber, Capt. Vincent Presto, Airman First Class William Kussler, Spc. Gregory Villaneuva. We ask God the Father of us all, through the intercession of St. Michael the Archangel, to protect all the men and women in our Armed Forces, to bless them in their efforts toward bringing peace and justice to our world. May they be brought back safely to those they love.

580-St. Cecilia

RCIA COMMUNICATIONS 2023

INVITATION TO RCIA— Have you been worshipping with us, but have never officially taken the step to become Catholic? Are you seeking a relationship with Jesus, but have not been Baptized or Confirmed or have not received First Communion? Are you married to a Catholic, but just don't know the next step to become Catholic? The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is a process by which non-Catholics learn and normally enter the Catholic Faith. RCIA is also for baptized Catholics who missed receiving Eucharist or Confirmation. Group meetings begin on Sundays starting in October in the St. Cecilia Parish Office. Interested in more info? Leave a message with your phone number and/or email address for Sister Diane at the Parish Office: 973-627-0313 ext. 14.

LOW GLUTEN – Those who cannot tolerate wheat products can receive the Holy Eucharist via a low gluten host which is approved by the National Conference of Catholic Bishops. Person(s) must make themselves identified to the priest no later than 10 minutes before Mass begins by going to the priest sacristy so that the preparation may be made for Mass.

MONTH OF THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED – November is the Month of the Faithful Departed in which we are called upon to offer Masses, prayers and fasting for the poor souls who have not yet become the Saints who reside in Heaven. All of us are reminded of our Catholic duty to pray for our departed loved ones regularly and especially during this month of All Souls. At the altar of Saint Joseph you will find a receptacle for your All Souls Mass remembrance which will be placed on the altar for the Holy Masses which will be offered throughout the month. Also, the Book of the Dead is on the Saint Joseph altar to include the names of the faithful departed. ETERNAL REST GRANT UNTO THEM O LORD-MAY THEY REST IN PEACE!

It's Safe, It's Simple & It's Convenient
Give online with WeShare

Support St. Cecilia Parish today using your debit or credit card or checking or savings account: Visit www.st-cecilia.org and click Donate Online. Select the collection or event of your choice. Set up your donation or payment. That's it! **OR SCAN HERE:**



ARE YOU REGISTERED? – Saint Cecilia's is the best parish in the Diocese of Paterson! I know that I am prejudiced but I truly believe this and I hope you do too! We welcome all people to our parish and are delighted each time new members join our faith community. My question is to all, **ARE YOU REGISTERED AS A PARISHIONER?** If you are not sure, please give the parish office a call (973.627.0313) and speak with Janet or Diane to check and to update any information regarding yourself, such as phone number and e mail address, etc. This information is most helpful for me in providing pastoral care to you and your family. Your parish registration is also necessary when you may be asked to submit a "certificate of eligibility" to serve as a godparent/sponsor. If I do not have your registration information then this can become a difficulty. The Registration form may be found on line by going to the parish website or by receiving a copy from the parish office. Your completed registration form may be mailed to the parish office or placed in the collection basket on Sunday. Register and be counted among those who love and support Saint Cecilia's! – FATHER ZIG

NOTICE FOR NEXT SATURDAY EVENING MASSES

I have been informed by the Rockaway Borough Police Department that Church Street, which is normally a one way street for Saturday evening, **WILL NOT BE SO NEXT SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28TH**, Church Street will serve as a two-way street with **NO PARKING ON EITHER SIDE OF THE STREET**. This is being done for next Saturday only to accommodate a borough event which will take place so as to ease traffic in town. **THIS CHANGE AFFECTS ONLY SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28th and NOT Sunday, October 29th**. I suggest you use the church parking lots on Saturday evening to avoid being ticketed. – Father Zig

FESTA CECILIA – Our second annual FESTA CECILIA will take place on Friday, November 10th in Hayes Hall from 5:30 to 8 o'clock. Based on an Italian festival our gathering celebrates our patroness Saint Cecilia who lived and was martyred in Rome. Our festival will begin with Italian food being available from 5:30 to 7 o'clock followed by a program of music and activities for all ages. A \$20 donation is asked per family and may be submitted at the door. Registration is required and must be done on the parish website no later than Friday, November 3rd. **JOIN US FOR FOOD, FUN AND FAITH!!**

Monday, October 23

7:00 pm—Holy Hour (Church)

7:30 pm—Bible Study (Hayes Hall)

Tuesday, October 24

7:00 pm—Confirmation Class (DMA)

7:45 pm—Light of Christ Prayer Group (HH)

Wednesday, October 25**Thursday, October 26****Friday, October 27**

6:00 pm—Trunk “N” Treat, DMA (Parking lot)

Saturday, October 28

8:00 am—Protecting God’s Children Class (HH)

8:00 pm—After Cana (Hayes Hall)

Sunday, October 29

9:15 am—Children’s Liturgy (Hayes Hall)

COAT DRIVE – The Men’s Society will conduct a winter coat drive on Saturday and Sunday, November 11-12. Winter coats for men, women and children are needed for the poor and will be distributed through the Market Street Mission in Morristown and Father English Community Center in Paterson. Please, new coats for those in need OR gently used and clean coats ONLY. The drive is held in commemoration of the Feast of Saint Martin of Tours whose feast is November 11th. One of the stories associated with Martin is that he gave his cloak to a poor person suffering from the cold and who later revealed Himself as the Lord Jesus. Please leave your donation on the designated tables in Hayes Hall.

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY - Today, we celebrate World Mission Sunday, heeding Pope Francis’s call to keep our “**Hearts on fire, feet on the move.**” On this day, we reflect on our baptismal promise to be disciples and missionaries, sharing the Good News. The collection today for the Society for the Propagation of the Faith directly aids priests, religious, and lay leaders in the Pope’s missions, allowing them to minister to and uplift communities in dire need. Let’s light up the world with our prayers and generosity. Thank you for your heartfelt contribution!

St. Joseph’s Home for the Elderly
LITTLE SISTERS OF THE POOR

As announced last July 13th we Little Sisters of the Poor are leaving Northern New Jersey per the reasons stated in the letter sent to your Pastor. After 148 years of unfailing assistance from the communities in the area, especially from you, Parishioners of St. Cecilia’s Parish (continuing your support as we transitioned to our Home in Totowa in 1976) we cannot fail to express our deep gratitude. Your friendship and aid have kept us afloat for these many years. Be confident that the grateful prayers of the Little Sisters will always present your needs and intentions before our Almighty God. Signed, Sr. Cecilia & Sr. Lorraine, Collecting Little Sisters - Further info may be had on our website: www.littlesistersofthepoortotowa.org

Divine Mercy Academy News

Divine Mercy Academy is hiring!

We have an open position for a part-time reading specialist. Experience in Orton-Gillingham and/or Wilson Reading System a plus. Send resume to jpatel@dmrockaway.org.

We also have opening for part-time aftercare staff. Please call the school if interested @ 973-627-6003.

Divine Mercy Academy’s Grandfriends in Faith Program

We are delighted to announce the revival of our *Grandfriends in Faith Program*. Ms. Roberti and her fourth grade students would like to extend a warm invitation to senior parishioners to join this wonderful intergenerational program. The goal of this program is to promote love, unity, and warm fellowship between youth and senior adults. The fourth grade class and their Grandfriends will meet throughout the school year in DMA’s all purpose room to form a lasting friendship, join creative forces in a craft or activity, and grow in faith. Of course the meeting is never complete without delicious treats provided by the fourth grade parents. Please note that all Grandfriends will be required to complete the Diocesan “Protecting God’s Children” process prior to participation. If you are interested in joining Grandfriends in Faith, please contact Mrs. Patel at

jpatel@dmrockaway.org.

FOOD PANTRY DONATIONS – Donations of food are gratefully accepted to help supply the two food pantries being assisted by our parish, the Rockaway Food Closet and Hope House (Catholic Charities in Dover). Your donations may be brought to the designated area in the stairwell of the church (side closest to the parish office) or left in the church vestibule. May God bless you for the generosity you show to the

From Our Lady of the Mountain Church in Long Valley— Join us on our trip to Sight and Sound Theater in Lancaster, PA. We will be seeing a great performance of the Christmas Show which will be truly amazing. The performance will be on November 10th. The bus leaves from Our Lady of the Mountain Church in Long Valley at 9:15 a.m. and returns around 9:00 p.m. Cost is \$155 for adults, children 12 and under are \$88. This includes the bus trip, show, and an Amish-style lunch. For registration please contact the Parish office at 908-876-4395.

BEWARE OF SCAMS – Be on the alert of scams which say they are from me. THEY ARE NOT!!! Please call me at the office (973.627.0313x12) if you have **doubt** about a text, email, etc, which is supposedly from me asking for money, gift cards, favors, etc. PLEASE DO NOT BE FOOLED!!! Fr. Zig

SAVE THE DATE

**Craft and Vendor Fair—St. Cecilia Church Hall
90 Church Street, Rockaway, NJ 07866**

Saturday, November 18, 2023

9:00 am - 2:00 pm

For further information email:

saintceciiliarosarysociety@gmail.com

SAINT CECILIA PRESENTS... - The next presentation in our series will be given by Father Stepan Biluk, pastor of Saint John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church in Whippany. Father will speak to us about the Church in Ukraine and the effect of the Russian invasion upon the faithful. The presentation will take place on Thursday, November 2nd, beginning at 7:00 pm in Hayes Hall.



Please visit the kiosk in the vestibule of the church to see our nice selection of CD's that has been updated —**\$4.00 a CD.**

TUTOR A CATHOLIC SISTER!

Assumption College for Sisters, Denville, NJ, is in need of volunteers to tutor Sister students in person. We are also seeking a volunteer fluent in French to assist a Sister recently arrived from Burundi. Please call 973-957-0188 X 102 or email president@acs350.org. THANK YOU FOR HELPING THE SISTERS FIND SUCCESS!

TUESDAY NIGHT LECTURE SERIES

Assumption College for Sisters invites you to the Tuesday Night Lectures Series, *Honoring Seasons of Life*. Schedule and topics: Sept. 26, *Season of Creation*, "How can we celebrate and advocate for God's gifts of creation?" with Sr. Patrice Owens, SSC; October 24, *Seasons of Wholeness*, "What are the Eastern Catholic Churches?" with Fr. Sigmund Peplowski; Nov. 14, *Season of Abundance*, *America's Indigenous Peoples*, "What can their heritage, spirituality teach us?" with Sr. Maire Pauline Demek, SCC and Sr. Carol Schuyler, SCC; Dec. 12, *Season of Emmanuel*, "Our place at the Advent/Christmas table with the Holy Family" with Mr. John Ward. Times: 7 - 8 pm, all lectures via LIVE STREAM. To register contact registrar@acs350.org indicating lectures you wish to attend and include a phone number. Free will offering. All are welcome!

Please join Morris County Right to Life in Morristown this fall between Sept 27th and Nov. 5th for 40 Days for Life. We are looking for volunteer to pray in front of the Planned Parenthood at 196 Speedwell Avenue for an hour or so between 7am and 7pm. Many babies lives are lost at this location every week. Prayers save lives! Please contact Frances Spilman at 44lifeus@gmail.com for more information. You can also sign up at: 40DaysforLife.com/ Morristown

5TH SUNDAY ROSARY – Join us for the "5th Sunday of the Month Rosary" at Sacred Heart of Jesus Church on East Main Street at 3 o'clock in the afternoon on October 29th. The Holy Rosary will be prayed as well the Divine Mercy Chaplet. This service is sponsored by the Knights of Columbus, Council 3359, to which all are invited to attend.

St. Cecilia's LIFE Runners'

THOMAS A HALTIGAN MEMORIAL PRO-LIFE 5K

Sunday, October 22, 2023

Run, Walk or Jog. All Age Groups for the Protection and Sanctity of Human Life from the Moment of Conception until Natural Death: **Where:** Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church, 91 Maple Ave., Morristown, NJ. Participants should arrive by **1:30 PM to sign in for 5K, which commences at 2:30 PM** immediately following prayer gathering. Light refreshments - Entry Fee: \$25. (Check payable to St. Cecilia Church. Write LIFE Runners in memo section of check. Write your name(s) and LIFE Runners via Venmo @StCecilia-FaithFormation) Fundraiser for *Rockaway Denville Catholic Respect Life Ministry*-

Registration & More Info:

John Byrne:

e-mail: jaidanbyrne@optonline.net

Jim Gallagher: e-mail

e-mail: jamesfgall@aol.com

Phone/Text: 973-529-4699

Walk-Ins Accepted. Jerseys available on a first come, first served basis while supplies last. You can also wear your own pro-life jersey. **5K is via sidewalks and pedestrian crossings of Morristown, NJ and is NOT timed.** Registration and Jerseys for sale at weekend Masses, October 14 & 15 (\$25 pp). Donations accepted if you wish to support this \$5K but can't attend **REGISTRATION Online** via Parish Website: www.st-cecilia.org





My dear parishioners,

Today we observe the 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time in our celebration of the Lord's Day. The Gospel passage tells us of the encounter the Lord had with His adversaries and how they had plotted to lead Him into confrontation with the Roman authorities. Jesus' answer of "Repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God," has become most noteworthy. This response has given strength to the separation of Church and State theory among the Christian faithful.

The Old Testament reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah tells us of the pagan Cyrus who is used by the Lord God for His bidding although Cyrus knows Him not. This political leader serves as the Lord's agent in letting the Israelites return to Jerusalem after their captivity in Babylon. The Lord God works through Cyrus and the legislation he enacts so that the divine plan may be accomplished. Here we find God's plan taking shape through the cooperation of this government official whom the Lord has blessed with a successful reign.

Both Scripture texts provide us with an opportunity to reflect upon the place of religion in politics. What a wonderful time of year for the lectionary to provide us with these readings as we draw near to Election Day, Tuesday, November 7th. Although we heed the words of the Lord Jesus in today's Gospel, none the less, we believe that our faith should propel us into the political scene so as to make a positive contribution to the society to which we belong. Christians should actively participate in the electoral process so as to choose candidates and laws which will benefit the common good. Politicians and laws which promote the pursuit of virtue and truth are to be supported by the followers of Jesus.

When Christians fail to participate in the electoral process or support candidates who propose legislation which contradicts the natural law, a disordered society is created in which Biblical values find no place. In such a society there will be confusion and a disregard for the truth.

Working for the up-building of the Kingdom of God has never been easy. The Christian faithful have always struggled to witness to Christ in the world. In today's epistle reading from the Apostle Paul's First Letter to the Thessalonians he encourages them as they live in a pagan world: *"We give thanks to God always for all of you, remembering you in our prayers, unceasingly calling to mind your work of faith and labor of love and endurance in hope of our Lord Jesus Christ, before our God and Father, knowing brothers and sisters loved by God, how you were chosen. For our Gospel did not come to you in word alone, but also in power and the Holy Spirit and with much conviction."*

We too are called to conviction! We must work to make sure that our political leaders will pursue justice, truth, virtue and the common good for our citizens. We must make sure that they promote and protect human life in all its stages, that they be attentive to the needs of the poor and most vulnerable in our society. Such politicians are worthy of praise when they seek to bring about goodness and love in the world. May God bless the United States of America with faith-filled politicians!

GLORY TO JESUS CHRIST-GLORY FOREVER!

Father Zig

**ST. SALOME, Mother of the Apostles James and John
October 22—Patroness of Veroli**

ST. SALOME, whose name in Hebrew evokes prosperity and peace and corresponds to the Greek Irene, is thought to be a sister or cousin of Mary, the Mother of Jesus, mentioned by St. John as being one of the three women standing at the foot of the Cross. St. Mark calls this woman Salome and St. Matthew characterizes her as "the mother of the sons of Zebedee."

Mark also mentions her as one of the same three as they came to anoint the body of Jesus in the tomb early on Easter morning.

It was this holy woman who asked Jesus to give her two sons, James and John, a place of honor in His Kingdom. In His reply, Jesus addressed the two Apostles and lovingly directed them to the life of sacrifice, abnegation, and imitation of His sufferings. Their reward would come beyond the boundaries of time.

She is venerated as Patroness of the Church of Veroli, Italy, to which city an ancient tradition says she came, with two companions called Blasé and Demetrius, and proclaimed the Faith. Then at an advanced age she closed out her days in peace there, while her two companions bore witness to the Faith with their lives.

PRAYER God, You alone are holy and without You no one is good. Through the intercession of St. Salome, grant that we may so live as not to be deprived of Your glory. Amen.



from, *Lives of the Saints*; Catholic Bookings Publishing Company, 1999, New Jersey.

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