

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, November 6, Weekday

6:30 am — Alfreda Bacanowski req. by Fr. Zig

8:00 am — Bob Berntsen req. by Joyce, Rob & Michael

Tuesday, November 7, Weekday

6:30 am — George Moughan req. by Sr. Diane

8:00 am — For the Faithfully Departed req. by Umeukeje Family

Wednesday, November 8, Weekday

6:30 am — Archimedes Baluyut req. by Elisea Sanvicente

8:00 am — Edward Paul Jozwiak req. by Edward F. Jozwiak

Thursday, November 9, The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica

6:30 am — For the Holy Souls in Purgatory

8:00 am — Lionel & Gisele Vermette req. by their daughter, Marie

Friday, November 10, Saint Leo the Great, Pope and Doctor of the Church

6:30 am — Special Intention

8:00 am — Ernest & Berta Juretschke req. by Ed & Mary Merz

Saturday, November 11, Saint Martin of Tours, Bishop

8:00 am — Deceased Members of the Men's Society

Sunday, November 12, Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time4:30 pm — Angela Goritski req. by Tom & Elaine Potkalesky
Ana L. (Salcedo) Cedenio req. by Tom & Elaine Potkalesky

7:00 pm — Michal Cichon req. by the Maulbeck Family

8:00 am — Joseph C. Feola

9:15 am — David Lewis req. by Kathie & Bill
Stefany Suto-Mendl, 1st Anv., req. by Loving
Cousins, Linda & Carline Kuhlmeier10:45 am — Renato Sebastian & Antonita DeJesus req. by Family
Thomas Schottinger req. by Karen Greene & Family12:15 pm — Vincent Siminski req. by Mark & Elaine Romito
Departed Members of the Cables Family**ST. CECILIA CHURCH COLLECTION GOALS****Week Ending : October 29, 2023**

Collection—Checks & Cash	\$ 8,628.38
WeShare Electronic Giving	\$ 4,194.40
Total Weekly Collection	\$ 12,822.78

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

Weekly Collection Surplus (Deficit)	\$ (1,215.68)
Year To Date Surplus (Deficit)	\$ (11,629.42)



*The Sanctuary Candle burning on our altar
this week is in loving memory of
Francis J. Goritski, Jr.
25th Anniversary
Requested by daughter, Susan*

**Flowers This Week**

*The Altar Flowers
are in loving memory of
Francis J. Goritski, Jr.
25th Anniversary
Requested by daughter, Susan*

Our Condolences to the Family of:
Teresa Laterza
Eternal Rest Grant to them Lord

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, 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, 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, Michael Hafke, Tyler Bascharow, Kevin R. Bruno, II, Larry Gatzke, Jeremiah O'Brien, Lanie Bruno, 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

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!!

BISHOPS WEB SITE – Father Zig spoke in church about the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops website in preparation for Election Day. You can visit the site by going on line to: USCCB and proceeding to "Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship." This is a wonderful resource which all Catholics can consult regarding issues which are important as we prepare for November 7th.

ECUMENICAL THANKSGIVING SERVICE – The Rockaway Clergy Association will sponsor an Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service on Sunday, November 19th beginning at 7 o'clock in the evening at the Rockaway Assembly of God located at 113 East Main Street in the borough. Father Matt will be participating in this prayer service. Those attending are invited to bring a bag of groceries for the Rockaway Food Closet. An offering will also be taken to support RISE UP, an ecumenical and interfaith project in town which distributes food and clothing to the needy.

Monday, November 6

7:00 pm—Holy Hour (Church)

7:30 pm—Bible Study (Hayes Hall)

Tuesday, November 7

9:30 am—Bible Study (Hayes Hall)

12:00 pm—Seniors Meeting (Hayes Hall)

7:00 pm—Confirmation Class 7th & 8th (DMA)

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

Wednesday, November 8

2:00 pm—Pro-Life “Walking w/Moms” (Hayes Hall)

6:00 pm—Education Council Meeting (DMA)

Thursday, November 9

7:00 pm—Lectors Meeting (Church)

Friday, November 10

6:00 pm—Festa Cecilia (Hayes Hall)

Saturday, November 11

8:30 am—St. Monica Guild and Men's Society Meeting (Hayes Hall)

Sunday, November 12

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

10:00 am—RCIA (Parish Office)

10:30 am—CCD Class (DMA)

3:00 pm—Gold & Silver Anniversary Mass (Cathedral of St. John the Baptist)

SAINT CECILIA PRESENTS... - The next presentation in this series will take place on Thursday, November 16th at 7 o'clock in the evening in Hayes Hall. The speaker will be Msgr. Raymond Lopatesky who will speak on the Pontifical Swiss Guards, a subject he is very connected with. Please join us to learn about the smallest army in the world which is centuries old.

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.

WIN A NEW CAR – The annual New Jersey Right to Life Raffle will take place on Saturday and Sunday, November 4 and 5 in our parish. Raffles will be sold at all Masses. In your support for life you have the chance of winning a new car or ShopRite gift cards are various denominations.

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.

Thanksgiving Baskets– The Rockaway Food Closet is in the process of collecting and preparing the distribution of food to the needy in time for Thanksgiving. The deadline to request a Basket is Tuesday, November 14th. If you know of anyone in need, please have them call the St. Cecilia's Rectory Office at 973-627-0313 (Janet) to submit their name. DISTRIBUTION will be Saturday, November 18th from 9:00 am to 12:00 noon at the Presbyterian Church in Rockaway.

Donations of food are gratefully accepted to help supply the Thanksgiving Baskets. 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 before November 16th.

Donated Turkeys can only be accepted on Saturday, November 18th from 8:30 am—12:00 pm at the Rockaway Food Closet, 35 Church Street, Rockaway.

May God bless you for the generosity you show to the needy!

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:
saintceciliarosarysociety@gmail.com

SAVE THE DATE—ADVENT RETREAT

Saturday—December 2nd, 2023
Hayes Hall
Breakfast will be served
Sponsored by
The St. Monica Guild
Reservations and Questions contact
Pat Zayac @ 973-625-4572

ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION AT CATHEDRAL –

His Excellency, Bishop Kevin Sweeney will preside at a liturgy in Saint John the Baptist Cathedral in Paterson to honor couples celebrating their significant marriage anniversaries this year. The ceremony begins at 3 o'clock in the afternoon on Sunday, November 12th. Those who will be honored from our parish are: Dennis & Bernadette McCoach, Roger & Denise Montalto-Rook, and Anthony & Susan Nedo. All the above are celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary this year. **CONGRATULATIONS!**

ROSYGLO RAFFLES – The Rosyglo Foundation in memory of Sister Thomasine Smith, who used to reside at Saint Cecilia Convent, will conduct their annual raffle to benefit the Sisters of Christian Charity (our religious order of Sisters) and scholarships to Catholic Schools (of which our school has benefited). Raffles will be sold at all Masses on Saturday and Sunday, November 18 and 19. I hope you will support this important fund raiser for this most worthwhile cause! – Father Zig

KNIGHTS FUND RAISER – The Knights of Columbus, Council 514 is sponsoring a pancake breakfast on Saturday, November 18th from 8 am to 10 am at Applebee's on Route 46 in the Dover ShopRite Plaza. The donation is \$12 for adults and \$10 for children. Tickets are being sold after Mass or by calling 201.486.3882. Let's support the Knights so that they can continue the good work they do for the Church!

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 Help Support Catholic Charities

We need gently used:

- Clothing • Bedding • Shoes • Small household items Have a clothing donation too big to fit in the box?
- Just call our Toll Free number to arrange for a free pickup at your home. 1-877-343-3651
- Throughout the year, Catholic Charities distributes much needed food through local food pantries and provides many other types of services and assistance including day care for children, day care for elderly persons, counseling, computer training, ESL utility bill assistance, flood assistance, drug/alcohol detox, drug/alcohol treatment, day and residential programs for adults with developmental disabilities and more. Money raised from these donations helps support these and other Catholic Charities programs.

**DROP BOX IS LOCATED IN PARISH PARKING LOT
BEHIND THE RECTORY**

**2023 Diocesan Ministries Appeal
"I Have Called You By Name"**

One of the important programs that receives funding from the Diocesan Ministries Appeal is Nazareth Village, our diocesan home for retired priests. The priests who live at Nazareth Village have faithfully served our diocese for many years, and many continue to celebrate Mass at local parishes. In addition, the Appeal helps fund the formation of our seminarians as they prepare for a lifetime of service to our parishioners now and for generations to come. Please join us in gratitude by recognizing those priests who have dedicated years of service to our families and those who will begin their service to the Lord and his Church. Please make a donation to the 2023 Diocesan Ministries Appeal today. Visit www.2023appeal.org to make a gift today.



My dear parishioners,

Today is the 31st Sunday in Ordinary Time. The Sacred Scriptures which are proclaimed at our celebration of the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass speak to the guidance and care which should be given to God's People by those who have been entrusted with this ministry. Both the Old Testament reading from the Prophet Malachi as well as the Gospel from the Evangelist Matthew chastises the ministers who are derelict in their duties and become scandalous to the community. In the epistle reading from the Apostle Paul's First Letter to the Thessalonians we see how pastoral care is carried out in a loving and selfless manner. Paul writes with affection and deep concern for his Thessalonian parishioners assuring them of his love and encouraging the faith they share in Christ Jesus.

Hypocrisy and self serving attitudes can enter into the ministry, a work which should be generously rendered to the People of God. Unfortunately, the devil is especially active in trying to destroy this ministry by entering into the heart of the shepherd. Striking the shepherd will cause the flock to disperse and the forces of evil to be victorious in their efforts to destroy God's People. Scandalous behavior in the lives of very few clerics has caused great harm to the Church. These few have sold themselves to the devil and sully the reputation of those faithful shepherds who selflessly serve the flock. Let us remember in prayer these good shepherds who minister in the Church with devotion and love us with a father's heart.

One of the duties of a priest is to pray and offer sacrifices for the living and the dead. This month of November is one dedicated to the Faithful Departed, a time in which the faithful are called upon to offer prayers and sacrifices for those who have gone before us. As your spiritual father, I remind you of this work of mercy and encourage you to fulfill this duty which is a sign of faith in eternal life and love for the departed. When we do these acts of faith and love we assist the departed as they make their way to God in His eternal kingdom. Purgatory is that process which frees the souls of any stain of sin so that they may join the angels and saints before the face of God. We assist them in this journey by offering our prayers, Masses and sacrifices. This is the faith of the Church! Please see the bulletin article which invites you to remember your departed loved ones at Saint Cecilia's during this Month of the Faithful Departed.

GLORY TO JESUS CHRIST-GLORY FORVER!

Father Zig

ST. MARTIN OF TOURS, Bishop
November 11—Patron of Soldiers

This great and renowned Saint was born in Pannonia (Hungary) about 317. The son of pagan parents, he early became a catechumen and served in the Roman army until, after he had given half his cloak to a beggar at Amiens, a vision of Christ (about 339) impelled him to Baptism and the religious life.

He was ordained an exorcist by St. Hilary, Bishop of Poitiers, and spent the ensuing years in various places, for some time leading the life of a hermit off the Italian coast. He had the happiness of converting his mother and also was flogged for offering public opposition to the Arians. Upon St. Hilary's return from exile, St. Martin rejoined him and built a monastery at Liguge where he lived until being chosen Bishop of Tours in 371.

In his new dignity he continued to lead the same humble and mortified life as before. At first he lived in a little cell near the church, but he afterward laid the foundations of the celebrated monastery of Marmoutier, which then consisted only of a series of grottoes in the rock, or of wooden cells, in which the holy Bishop and his disciples dwelt and performed their exercises of piety. A number of disciples flocked to his monastic standard, and he thus became the founder of monasticism in Gaul, as St. Anthony had been in Egypt and St. Hilarion in Palestine. This monastery also became a nursery of Bishops, such was the reputation of the disciples of St. Martin.

The zealous labors of the Saint succeeded in extirpating idolatry from the diocese of Tours and the neighboring parts of Gaul. Although in the midst of the heresies of his time, he was a staunch adherent of the Catholic Faith. He, as well as St. Ambrose, energetically protested against those who would put heretics to death. The life of this great Saint was one of constant prayer. His virtues were also rewarded by an extraordinary gift of miracles. After a long life of more than eighty years, he died peacefully in the year 397.

PRAYER God, Your Bishop St. Martin glorified You by both his life and his death. Renew in us Your grace, so that neither death nor life can separate us from Your love. Amen.

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

580-St. Cecilia

Saint Cecilia Parish

*90 Church Street
Rockaway, New Jersey 07866*

Parish Office: 973-627-0313 Website: st-cecilia.org — Office: stcec@optonline.net Fax: 973-627-4811
To Contact: Fr. Zig: Ext. 12 or speplowski@optonline.net
Fr. Matt: Ext 15 or frmateuszdarlak@gmail.com
School: 973-627-6003 CCD Office: 973-627-0313 Ext. 17
