

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

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
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, February 19, Lenten Weekday

6:30 am—Special Intention: Pat Degnan

8:00 am—Stella Rychlicki req. by Pat Zayac

Tuesday, February 20, Lenten Weekday

6:30 am—For the service men & women listed in our bulletin

8:00 am—Stella Rychlicki req. by Rosary Society

Wednesday, February 21, Saint Peter Damian, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

6:30 am—Jeanne Gallagher req. by Agnes Maye

8:00 am—Maureen A. Roos req. by Pat Degnan

Thursday, February 22, The Chair of Saint Peter the Apostle

6:30 am—Colleen Rivet req. by Trudy Simmons

8:00 am—George & Rose Ann Cunningham req. by Ed & Mary Merz

Friday, February 23, Saint Polycarp, Bishop and Martyr

6:30 am—Margarita Orteq req. by Jessica Jimenez

8:00 am—Frederick J. Slanovec req. by Sue Ellen Appleby

Saturday, February 24, Lenten Weekday

8:00 am—Veronica Morgante

Sunday, February 25 Second Sunday of Lent4:30 pm—Jeanne Gallagher req. by Rockaway Boro Seniors
Michael Miller req. by Family7:00 pm—Al Cuneo req. by Ag Struble & Family
Kathy Rivet req. by Trudy Simmons

8:00 am—Al Muscolino

9:15 am—Margarita Orteq req. by daughter, Magda

10:45 am—Special Intention: Kira Woyce req. by Nicholas & Jeanine Losito

12:15 pm—Linda Donatoni req. by Susan Covalessky

ST. CECILIA CHURCH COLLECTION GOALSWeek Ending : February 11, 2024

Collection—Checks & Cash	\$ 8,430.61
WeShare Electronic Giving	\$ 5,400.91
<u>Total Weekly Collection</u>	\$ 13,831.52

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

Weekly Collection Surplus (Deficit)	\$ (206.95)
Year To Date Surplus (Deficit)	\$ (3,237.57)

We are thankful for your consistent stewardship. ©JPPC



We are online: www.st-cecilia.org

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 Cummiskey, 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, Jeremiah O'Brien, Lanie Bruno, Joan Apgar, Richard Sala, Richard Cortese, Kira Woyce.



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

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS

We have begun this year's process of welcoming adults to RCIA (preparation for Baptism) and including adults seeking Confirmation and Eucharist in the Catholic Church. Our four inquiry sessions are now completed. But it's not too late to join us.

For this preliminary period our focus topics overviewed Catholic understanding of these basics for potential members before they make any commitments.

Living Baptism – (about Sacraments)

Knowing and Meeting Jesus – (about Scripture)

Looking at the Apostles Creed – (about Doctrine)

Living Catholic – Commandments & Beatitudes – (about Moral teachings)

New members can review this material at home under the direction of the RCIA Director and discern their readiness to join the preparation process.

The Catechumenate Community begins on December 3rd at the 10:45 am Mass followed by a meeting in the parish office until 12:30 pm. For more information or to register, leave a message for Sister Diane at the parish office - 973.627.0313 ext. 14 with your phone number and email.

PRAYER APP FOR \$1 – Our parish has purchased 500 partial subscriptions to the # 1 Catholic prayer app, HAL-LOW! You can access a treasure of resources through this app: thousands of prayers, meditations, and music play lists for you to enjoy and enhance your personal prayer life. These partial subscriptions are a \$40 value and are available to you for only \$1. Please visit the parish website, st-cecilia.org to learn about how to claim your subscription and start praying today with Hallow!

YOUR SUGGESTIONS, PLEASE! – Our parish's 150th Anniversary Committee is seeking suggestions as to how we might celebrate our 150th anniversary which will run December 1, 2024 to November 22, 2025. You may go to the parish website, st-cecilia.org, to send in your suggestions OR by placing them in the 'suggestion box' located on the table in the church vestibule.

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:**

**Church Regulations Regarding Fast and Abstinence:**

Abstinence from meat (beast or fowl) is to be observed by all Catholics fourteen years old and older on Ash Wednesday and on all the Fridays of Lent. This obligation prohibits the eating of meat, but not eggs, milk products, or condiments of any kind, even though made from animal fat. Fasting means limiting oneself to one full meal on a given fast day. Catholics who are eighteen years of age but not yet fifty-nine are obliged to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. On fast days, two additional smaller meals are permitted if necessary to maintain strength. However, the two smaller meals together may not equal one full meal. Moreover, eating solid foods between meals on fast days is not permitted.

LENTEN RETREAT – This year's parish Lenten retreat will take place on Saturday, March 9th beginning with the 8 o'clock morning Mass followed by breakfast in Hayes Hall and the start of the morning reflection. The registration fee is \$25 per person and must be made by calling the parish office (973.627.0313) and mailing in the registration flyer to the office with the check made payable to: St. Cecilia Rosary Society no later than Monday, March 4th. This year's theme is "The Holy Triduum and the Mystery of God's Love" which will be given by Father Matt and Jim Clancy. Copies of the retreat flyer may be found on the table in the church vestibule.

THANK YOU – New concrete benches were recently installed at the statue of the Sacred Heart of Jesus in front of Divine Mercy Academy. The benches replace the wooden ones which had deteriorated over time. The donation of the benches and the installation is given anonymously. May Christ our Savior richly bless the donors for their generosity! – Father Zig

THANK YOU – Last Saturday evening at the 7 o'clock Mass the 16 young people who participated in this year's TRUE LOVE WAITS program marked the conclusion of the three week gathering. The program speaks to young people regarding the virtue of chastity and the avoidance (and dangers) of pre-marital sex. This nationwide program is conducted in many Catholic parishes and I am so grateful that we are able to provide this opportunity at Saint Cecilia's. My sincere thanks to Jenny Kling and Faith Rose for presenting this year's program and for their tireless efforts. May God bless them! – Father Zig

Monday, February 19

DMA and the Parish Office are closed today

Tuesday, February 20

DMA Closed today

9:30 am—Bible Study (Hayes Hall)

12:00 pm—Seniors Meeting (Hayes Hall)

7:00 pm—1st grade FHC Parents Meeting (HH)

Wednesday, February 21**Thursday, February 22**

6:00 pm—Bread & Soup (Hayes Hall)

Friday, February 23

5:30 pm—Altar Servers Meeting (Church)

7:00 pm—Stations of the Cross (Church)

Saturday, February 24

10:00 am—2nd Grade First Penance (Church)

Assumption College Raffle Tickets after all the Masses

Sunday, February 25

10:30 am—CCD Class K-6th (DMA)

10:45 am—RCIA (Church & Parish Office)

Assumption College Raffle Tickets after all the Masses

Divine Mercy Academy News

Registration for the 2023-2024 school year at Divine Mercy Academy in Rockaway is now open!

Come see the difference an academically excellent Catholic education makes! Divine Mercy Academy is a Catholic elementary school offering a comprehensive Pre-K through 8th grade faith-based education. We offer a safe, secure & compassionate environment with a high level of individualized attention; certified teachers; weekly liturgies & daily Religion class; academic curriculum with all core subjects; STEM; physical education; music, art, Spanish & library, with technology integrated throughout the curriculum. Aftercare and extracurricular activities available.

Full day & Half Day Pre-K3 & Pre-K4 programs available. Full Day Kindergarten. We are located at 87 Halsey Avenue in Rockaway. Visit our website at www.dmarockaway.org or call 973-627-6003 for more information.

RETREAT FOR YOUNG MEN – Bishop Kevin Sweeney is inviting young men of the diocese to join him for a 3 day retreat at Loyola House Retreat Center in Morristown, March 1-3 to help discover one's calling in life. This event is free of charge. Please see the details in the retreat postcard which can be found on the bulletin table in the church vestibule. To register please contact Father Ed Rama at 973.777.8818, ext 715 or go to: vocations@patersondiocese.org.

PLANNED GIVING FOR OUR PARISH – Planned giving is the practice of designating a gift to a charitable organization during one's lifetime or as a part of an estate plan.

The gift could include cash, wills, bequests, stocks, retirement assets, real estate, life insurance, annuities equity or personal property. This act of philanthropy serves as a meaningful way to honor your Catholic faith and create a memorial. Donors can minimize capital gains tax when transferring assets as part of a planned gift, further maximizing the contribution to charity. As you think about such matters I hope you will remember our parish, your spiritual home. – Father Zig

OLD PALMS – Last year's blessed palms may be deposited in the basket located in the church vestibule for proper disposal. Blessed palms and all sacramentals should be disposed of according to church regulations.

Second Collection: This week our special collection supports the Church in Central and Eastern Europe. Your donation helps restore the Church and build the future in more than 25 countries still struggling to recover from former communist rule and now the war in Ukraine. Funds from this collection support reconstruction, education, formation, and poverty outreach. Thank you for your generosity to the collection today. You can find more information at www.usccb.org/ceec. #iGiveCatholicTogether

LENTEN LUNCHESES – The Ecumenical Clergy Association of Rockaway is once again sponsoring the Friday Lenten Lunches which will take place at the First Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall every Friday during Lent (except Good Friday) beginning at 12 Noon. Lunch is served followed by a service of prayer which will be led by a different clergyperson each week. The donation is \$5.

THURSDAY NIGHT BREAD & SOUP – Back by popular demand is our Thursday Night Bread and Soup program during Lent. The evening begins at 6 o'clock with a variety of soup and bread followed by a video presentation and discussion. We conclude with Evening Prayer at 8 o'clock. We will show an exciting new series produced by Ascension Press entitled, "*When You Pray: A Clear Path to a Deeper Relationship with God.*" The first meeting is Thursday, February 22nd, hope to see you there!

ROSARY CARDS – You are invited to participate in a nation-wide Rosary crusade which begins this month and concludes in September at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington. Learn more about this event at rosarypilgrimage.org. Prayer cards for this event may be found on the table in the church vestibule.

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

COOK BOOK TO BE PUBLISHED – The Saint Monica Guild has embarked upon the production of a cook book which will be published later in the year. Now is the time for the gathering of your favorite recipes which the Saint Monica Guild would like to include, especially your ethnic specialties. Soon a representative from the Saint Monica Guild will speak to us at Sunday Mass regarding this project which will help introduce our parish anniversary celebration!

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 needy!

Please join Morris County Right to Life for our upcoming prayer and fasting for life campaign. We are looking for volunteers to come out and pray in the public walkway in front of Planned Parenthood at 196 Speedwell Avenue in Morristown. Prayer and presence saves lives! The vigil runs from Feb. 14th through March 24th 2024, 7am -7pm daily. Please sign up at the link below. Contact Frances Spilman with any questions at: 44lifeus@gmail.com

Prayer for the Holy Land

*Lord, the Holy Land is again
struck by violence. Look with
mercy upon the land that
was Your earthly home.*

*Receive the deceased into Your
presence. Comfort the wounded
and the displaced. Hold close
to You all who are in despair.*

*You are our peace and light.
put an end to the terror and
suffering in the Holy Land
and Middle East.*

Amen

SAVE THE DATE – Although it's early, you may want to save the date for "DANIEL" at the Sight and Sound Theater in Pennsylvania. The Saint Monica Guild will conduct a bus trip to view this highly rated production on Friday, September 20, 2024. For information please call Janet at the parish office, 973-627-0313

CLOSURE FOR HOLIDAY – Monday, February 19th is Presidents Day, a national holiday. The parish office will be closed, Divine Mercy Academy will be closed, Holy Hour (Confessions) and Bible Study will not take place.

WINTER POLICY - In the event of inclement weather and Divine Mercy Academy is closed, the parish office will be closed and the church will be open **ONLY** for the liturgical service scheduled. Also, all evening events will be cancelled.

Assumption College for Sisters

Each year Assumption College for Sisters hosts the ***Caring Basket Gala***.

The proceeds of this Gala make it possible for the College to sponsor 20 Sisters from developing countries each year. As part of the fundraising connected with this event, the college sells 50/50 raffle tickets. These will be sold after all the Masses the ***weekend of February 24-25***. The tickets are \$10 each. Your contributions make it possible for us to "*Teach a Sister – Touch the World*". We invite you to join in our Gala on the evening of ***Friday, March 22*** at the Park Avenue Club, Florham Park.

SAVE THE DATE

Craft & Vendor Fair—St. Cecilia Church Hall
90 Church Street, Rockaway, NJ 07866
Saturday, March 2nd, 2024
9:00 am—2:00 pm

For further information, email:
saintceciliarosarysociety@gmail.com

OUR CHILDREN – Children should be accompanied by a parent or adult when using the restrooms in the parish hall. We want to make sure that our children return to Mass promptly and safely. Your cooperation is appreciated.



My dear parishioners,

Today is the First Sunday of Lent as we assemble to celebrate the Holy Eucharist on the Lord's Day. The First Sunday of Lent always draws our attention to the Lord Jesus' retreat into the wilderness following His baptism and prior to the start of His three year ministry. The desert experience is one in which the Lord prepares Himself for the work He will undertake in fighting the forces of evil and inaugurating the Kingdom of God. It will be through prayer and fasting that the Lord will fortify Himself and thus show us what we must do to be victorious over the forces of evil.

On this First Sunday of Lent we stand at the forefront of this 40 day season in which we are called to practice the disciplines of **PRAYER, FASTING** and **ALMS-GIVING**. All of us must take seriously these Lenten disciplines so as to arrive at the Easter Feast changed in mind and heart. Of course these disciplines will not always be easy to incorporate into our lifestyle and the routine we have at home. It will take a great deal of strength and determination on your part. You may find yourself alone in keeping these disciplines but don't be discouraged. Christians throughout the world are joining with you in the proper observance of Lent by fasting on Fridays, increasing prayer time and by generously showing mercy to those who are struggling to live.

Wasting Lent is what you will do if there is no accommodation of **PRAYER, FASTING** and **ALMS-GIVING** in your life for these next 40 days. You will note that the Church has relaxed the Lenten disciplines for the elderly and very young. I would like to suggest however that these disciplines be introduced to our children as soon as possible so that from a young age they will know that Lent is a holy time. Seniors who are healthy should not see themselves as exempt but should keep the Lenten disciplines in thanksgiving to God.

Righteous Noah is spoken of in both the Old Testament and epistle readings for today and the word **COVENANT** is associated with him, the agreement between him and God. Let us enter into a covenant with the Lord this Lent by keeping the disciplines of **PRAYER, FASTING** and **ALMS-GIVING** trusting that God will bless us in our celebration of Jesus' Holy Resurrection.

I ask that you consider attending daily Mass at 6:30 or 8 o'clock before heading off to work or school. I invite our retired people to consider this also!

GLORY TO JESUS CHRIST-GLORY FOREVER!

Father Zig

**ST. MARIE BERNADETTE SOUBIROUS,
Virgin - February 18**

ST. MARIE Bernadette Soubirous was born at Lourdes in 1844. At fourteen years of age she witnessed eighteen apparitions of Our Blessed Lady at Lourdes, instructing her to make known the miraculous healing powers which the Blessed Virgin, by her presence, would give to the waters at Lourdes.

In 1866 St. Marie Bernadette Soubirous joined the Sisters of Charity at Nevers, taking her perpetual vows in 1878. Her contemporaries admired her humility and the authentic character of her testimony about the appearance of the Blessed Virgin.

Nevertheless she had to endure many severe trials during her religious life and exhibited heroic patience in sickness. She realized that the healing spring was not for her, and was fond of saying: "The Blessed Virgin used me as a boom to remove dust. When the work is finished, the broom is placed behind the door and left there."

She died in 1879 at the age of thirty-five and was canonized in 1933 by Pope Pius XI.



PRAYER Lord God, You showered heavenly gifts on St. Bernadette. Help us to imitate her virtues during our earthly life and enjoy eternal happiness with her in heaven. Amen.

Saint Cecilia Parish

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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
