

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, March 18, Saint Cyril of Jerusalem, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

6:30 am—Stephen Brussell, Jr., req. by McDonnell Family

8:00 am—Linda Donatoni req. by Dianna & John Sullivan

Tuesday, March 19, Saint Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary

6:30 am—Raymond Coady, 4th Anv., req. by Family

8:00 am—Ray Killeen req. by Carol & Frank Desmond

Wednesday, March 20, Lenten Weekday

6:30 am—Special Intention

8:00 am—Deceased Members of the Jozwiak Family

Thursday, March 21, Lenten Weekday

6:30 am—John & Margaret Whalen

8:00 am—Kathleen Sheridan req. by Lynn & Harold Nebbia

Friday, March 22, Lenten Weekday

6:30 am—For the sick listed in our bulletin and their caregivers

8:00 am—Frank Killeen req. by Carol & Frank Desmond

Saturday, March 23, Saint Turibius of Mogrovejo, Bishop

8:00 am—Patricia Zayac

Sunday, March 24, Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

4:30 pm—Josephine Lusardi req. by Pat Zayac

Michael Miller req. by Family

7:00 pm—Stella Rychlicki req. by Jan Gallagher

Dr. Bernard Covalessky req. by Family

8:00 am—Ralph J. Barbato, Jr. req. by Tom & Bob Benjamin

9:15 am—Claire Mildred Dowling req. by Helen & Gerry Primavera

Patricia Zayac req. by Barbara Quinby

10:45 am—Berardino Squeo req. by his wife, Marie

Jillian Breslin req. by Anna Jozwiak

12:15 pm—Joe Koller req. by his wife, Alice & Family

James Matthew Riccio req. by his mom, Catherine

PRAY FOR THE SICK AND THEIR CAREGIVERS

Ethan Chandra, Dean Wayne Campbell, Doris Cusick, Jane Goricca, 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.

ST. CECILIA CHURCH COLLECTION GOALS**Week Ending : March 10, 2024**

Collection—Checks & Cash	\$ 9,090.00
WeShare Electronic Giving	\$ 4,453.17
Total Weekly Collection	\$ 13,543.17

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

Weekly Collection Surplus (Deficit)	\$ (495.29)
Year To Date Surplus (Deficit)	\$ (4,221.26)



The flowers at the altar of St. Joseph
have been given by
Fr. Zig



*The Sanctuary Candle burning on our altar
this week is in loving memory of the
Deceased Members of the Noto Family
Requested by Jean Asti*



May the road rise up to meet you,
May the wind always
be at your back,
May the sun shine warm
upon your face,
and the rains fall softly upon
your fields,
And, until we meet again,
May God hold you in
the palm of his hand.

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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.

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YOU ARE INVITED – His Excellency, Bishop Kevin Sweeney is inviting you to be with him and the priests of the Diocese of Paterson for the annual Chrism Mass which will take place on TUESDAY, March 26th. The liturgy will take place in the Cathedral of Saint John the Baptist located on Grand and Main Streets in Paterson. The liturgy begins at 7 p.m. secure indoor parking is provided at the Passaic County Court Parking Lot located adjacent to the cathedral on Grand Street. This is the Mass at which the Bishop blesses the holy oils which will be used to administer the sacraments in parishes throughout the year. At this Mass the priests also renew their ordination vows. Join Father Zig and Father Matt in attending this beautiful Holy Week celebration.

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

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.

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY – Divine Mercy Sunday is April 7th and will be observed with a special service which will be conducted in our church beginning at 1:30 in the afternoon. We are happy that Derek Nelson and Family will once again lead us in this service in which the Blessed Sacrament will be exposed and the sacrament of penance available to those who would like to receive it. The service will conclude at 3 o'clock, the Hour of Mercy!

MONDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY – Part 1 of the course entitled, "Fulfilled: Uncovering the Biblical Foundations of Catholicism," has been completed and Part 2 will begin on Monday, April 8th. Should you like information regarding this series please contact Chuck Malaniak at cemalaniak@gmail.com.

CONFESSIONS – All of us are invited to receive the sacrament of penance during the season of Lent. Confessions are held every Monday evening from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm as well as prior to the Saturday evening Vigil Masses. A Lenten penance service will take place on Wednesday, March 20th at 7:00 pm. Eight priests will be available to hear confessions for both adults and young people. The church requires all the faithful to receive the sacraments of penance and Eucharist during the Easter season which is commonly called "Easter Duty".

SAINT JOSEPH NOVENA – The novena to Saint Joseph will begin in our parish on Sunday, March 10th which leads up to the Solemnity of Saint Joseph on March 19th. The novena will be prayed at the conclusion of the 8 o'clock morning mass every day. The traditional blessing of "Saint Joseph Pasteries" will take place in Hayes Hall immediately following the 8 o'clock morning Mass on the Solemnity of Saint Joseph, Tuesday-March 19th during which time a brief program will take place with a presentation given by Dr. Anthony Pane. All are welcome to attend this reception.

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Monday, March 18

7:00 pm—Holy Hour (Church)

7:30 pm—Bible Study (Hayes Hall)

Tuesday, March 19

8:30 am—St. Joseph Table (Hayes Hall)

9:30 am—Bible Study (Hayes Hall)

12:00 pm—Seniors Meeting (Hayes Hall)

7:00 pm—Confirmation Class (DMA)

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

Wednesday, March 20

10:00 am—School Penance Service (Church)

7:00 pm—Penance Service (Church)

Thursday, March 21

6:30 pm—Bread & Soup (Hayes Hall)

Friday, March 22

5:30 pm—Altar Server Training (Church)

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

Saturday, March 23

Bake Sale after the Masses

Sunday, March 24

Bake Sale after the Masses

Divine Mercy Academy News**Help Wanted**

Divine Mercy Academy, a PK3-8th grade elementary school located in Rockaway is in need of part-time Aftercare Aides. Applicants are required to be 18 years of age and have a high school diploma or equivalent and are required to complete the diocesan background check and Protecting God's Children training program. Ideal candidates should have some experience working with children and/or an early childhood or elementary education background. Candidates will assist with afternoon snack, homework, indoor and outdoor play experiences and tend to the needs of our young students. The Aftercare program runs from Monday – Friday, 2:00 pm until 6:00 pm during school days. If interested, please email the principal: jpatel@dmrockaway.org

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 6:30 pm 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!

TWENTY-THIRD ANNUAL CARING BASKET GALA

With gratitude to God, Assumption College for Sisters and the Sisters of Christian Charity cordially invite you:

Friday, March 22, 2024

6:30 pm

The Park Avenue Club
184 Park Avenue
Florham Park, NJ 07932

For more information:
Assumption College for Sisters
Phone: 973-957-0188 x 101
Email: gala@acs350.org
Web: Acs350.org

"Let's Support Our Sisters"

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.

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.

Wednesday, March 20

Annual Lenten Penance Service at 7:00 pm
8 Priests Available for Confession

Monday, March 25

Mass at 6:30 am & 8:00 am
7:00 pm Holy Hour (Confessions)

Tuesday, March 26

Mass at 6:30 am & 8:00 am

Chrism Mass at 7:00 pm at St. John's the Baptist Cathedral,
Paterson

The Blessing of oils and the renewal of Priestly ordination
vows takes place.

Wednesday, March 27

Mass at 6:30 am & 8:00 am

The Easter Triduum**Holy Thursday, March 28**

Morning Prayer – 9:00 am

Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7:00 pm
(followed by adoration until 10:00 pm)

Good Friday, March 29

Morning Prayer – 9:00 am

Stations of the Cross at 12:00 pm in Church

Stations of the Cross at 3:00 pm at St. Cecilia's Cemetery

Celebration of the Lord's Passion at 5:00 pm

Celebration of the Lord's Passion at 8:00 pm
(Vietnamese Community)

Holy Saturday, March 30

Morning Prayer – 9:00 am

Blessing of Easter Food – 1:00 pm and after the Easter Vigil

Easter Vigil Mass – 8:00 pm

Easter, March 31

Easter Sunday – Regular Sunday Schedule:
8:00 am, 9:15 am, 10:45 am, 12:15 pm & 5:00 pm
(Vietnamese)

Divine Mercy Sunday, April 7

Regular Sunday Mass Schedule

Divine Mercy Devotion 1:30 pm - 3:00 pm

A Lenten Prayer

Lord Jesus, help me to see You
When You have fallen,
Your cross too heavy to bear;
On the roadside, in a stairwell,
On a park bench,
Forsaken, forgotten, alone.
Let me help to bear Your cross, O Lord;
Your hunger, Your sadness, Your pain.
Let me walk beside You,
Let me share with You
My time, my possessions,
And myself.
I gladly reach out to bear the cross,
To lighten the burdens
Of Your suffering children.
I offer this in Your name,
For your cross bore You alone, my Lord,
Who suffered for my sake.
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

EMMAUS EASTER EGG HUNT – Join us for this parish gathering that will include a presentation of the Easter story of the "Road to Emmaus" (Luke 24:13-35); a deluxe Easter egg hunt for the kids on the parish grounds, with lunch to follow. A variety of treats will be available along with Easter goodies and much more. It all happens on WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3rd; from 11 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. RSVP on the parish web site. It will be a great time for food, fun and faith!!

CABRINI – The AMC Theater in Rockaway is currently showing the movie CABRINI which is on the life of Saint Frances Xavier Cabrini whose feast day is November 13. This Italian religious sister came to the United States to minister to the immigrants who were arriving at the turn of the 20th century and were the victims of discrimination. She established numerous hospitals, schools and orphanages not only in the US but throughout the Americas. She was a woman of great faith and strength.

Our Condolences to the Family of:
Adam Ptaszek & Anna Lucia Zangari
Eternal Rest Grant to them Lord

NEXT SUNDAY ROSARY – The "5th Sunday of the Month Rosary" will take place next Sunday, one week early due to the celebration of Easter. Join us at 3 o'clock in the afternoon next Sunday, March 24th-Palm Sunday, in Sacred Heart of Jesus Church on East Main Street. The Rosary will be prayed for personal intentions as well as for the repose of the souls of Jack and Pat Zayac who were instrumental in this event which is sponsored by the Knights of Columbus, Council 3359.

BAKE SALE – The Saint Monica Guild will hold a bake sale on Palm Sunday, March 23-24 in Hayes Hall following all the Masses. A wide variety of baked goods and MORE will be on sale for your holiday purchase. Your support of this fund raiser is greatly appreciated.

EASTER FLOWERS – All parishioners are asked to make a donation for the purchase of flowers which will adorn our church for the Solemnity of Our Lord's Holy Resurrection. A special envelope was included with the offering envelope mailing or "on line giving." Your donation may also be placed in a regular envelope marked "Easter flowers" or simply by putting this designation in the memo portion of your check. May God bless your generosity!



My dear parishioners,

Today we celebrate the Holy Eucharist on the Fifth Sunday of Lent as we observe the Lord's Day. The Sacred Scriptures for this day draw our attention to the universal call given to all people to enter into a relationship with the Lord. The Prophet Jeremiah reminds the people of Judah of the Lord's graciousness and committed love. In the Gospel we find some Greeks asking to see Jesus. Both Jews and Gentiles are welcome into the presence of the Lord; no one is to be excluded. In the epistle reading the ancient Christian author reminds us that Jesus "became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey Him." He is indeed the One whom people of all nations are called to follow. Today's Gospel reading contains the invitation of Jesus to follow in His path by accepting suffering which leads to eternal life for all people: "And when I am lifted up from the earth, I will draw everyone to Myself."

Another interesting point of the Gospel is that the Greeks approached Philip to see Jesus and then Philip went to Andrew who told Jesus of the Greek visitors. The disciples introduced the Lord to the Gentile visitors and this gives us pause to consider our role in bringing others to Jesus. Our Holy Father Pope Francis continually reminds the faithful of the important vocation we have as MISSIONARY DISCIPLES. By virtue of our Baptism all of us are charged with bringing others to Christ and we do so most wonderfully by our joy-filled witness. When others see our joy in Christ and His mystical body, the Church, they are drawn and eager to discover what faith-filled believers possess.

We enter into the later part of the Lenten season on this Fifth Sunday of Lent traditionally called Passion Sunday. As you see the holy images in the church are veiled as per tradition. The Roman Missal gives this instruction: "*In the dioceses of the United States, the practice of covering crosses and images throughout the church from the Fifth Sunday of Lent may be observed. Crosses remain covered until the end of the celebration of the Lord's Passion on Good Friday, but images remain covered until the beginning of the Easter Vigil.*" I have included an insert in today's bulletin which speaks a little more about this practice for your information.

As we approach the days commemorating our Lord's Passion, Death and Holy Resurrection let us all consider our vocation as missionary disciples. Let us be like the Apostles Philip and Andrew and introduce someone we know to join us for liturgy during the "high holy days." Perhaps there is a relative, neighbor or friend who needs YOU to introduce them to Christ and His Church. That's your vocation!

GLORY TO JESUS CHRIST-GLORY FOREVER!

Father Zig

ST. CYRIL OF JERUSALEM,
Bishop and Doctor of the Church

St. Cyril was born in the vicinity of Jerusalem about the year 315. Having made great progress in the knowledge of the pagan philosophers and the Fathers of the Church, but above all in the Sacred Scriptures, he was ordained priest about the year 345 by Maximus, Bishop of Jerusalem.

About the end of the year 350 he succeeded Maximus in the See of Jerusalem. St. Cyril entered upon his episcopal office at a time when the Church was distracted by the Arian heresy. A difference arose between him and Acacius, the Arian Bishop of Caesarea, who claimed jurisdiction over the Church of Jerusalem, a claim to which St. Cyril did not submit. He was forced to take refuge at Tarsus for a time. At the death of Constantius and the accession of Julian, he was restored to his See.

St. Cyril was once more driven from his See in 367 by the Arian Emperor Valens, but he returned to it in 378 at the accession of Gratian. In 381 he assisted at the General Council of Constantinople and formally accepted the full Nicene Creed. He died in the year 386.



PRAYER God, through St. Cyril You miraculously unified Your Church that she might more fully grasp the mysteries of salvation. Through his intercession help us to acknowledge Your Son and so obtain more abundant life. Amen.

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