

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
YOUTH PROTECTION &
SAFE ENVIRONMENT
COORDINATOR

Mr. James Clancy
DIRECTOR OF FAITH FORMATION

Mr. Charles Linnell
MUSIC DIRECTOR

Mrs. Diane Boykow
CEMETERY ADMINISTRATOR
STAFF ASSISTANT

Mrs. Kelly Cacella
PRINCIPAL



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 @ 3:00—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

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 (Sept. to June)

OCIA—ORDER OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION— FOR

ADULTS:

Please contact Sr. Diane — sdmoughan@gmail.com

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 (Sept. to June)

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, April 21, Monday within the Octave of Easter

6:30 am — Georgeanne Muia req. by Cynthia & Gerry Donnelly

8:00 am — Florence Njeze req. by Family

Tuesday, April 22, Tuesday within the Octave of Easter6:30 am — Reynaldo Tolentino req. by the Baldovino Family,
Amy, Armor & Dick

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

Wednesday, April 23, Wednesday within the Octave of Easter

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

8:00 am — Alice & Walter Lech req. by Dianna & John Sullivan

Thursday, April 24, Thursday within the Octave of Easter

6:30 am — Samuel & Theodore Kobylar req. by Fr. Zig

8:00 am — Agnes Cuneo req. by Ag Struble

Friday, April 25, Friday within the Octave of Easter

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

8:00 am — John & Margaret Holleran

Saturday, April 26, Saturday within the Octave of Easter

8:00 am — Maryann Schilling req. by Sophie Boylan

Sunday, April 27, Second Sunday of Easter

4:30 pm — Charles Bewalder, Jr., req. by the Oatley Family

Antonio Perez req. by Aida Aligada

7:00 pm — Bill & Jeanne Gallagher req. by their daughter, Jan

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

9:15 am — Merrill Conner req. by the Graner Family

Mark H. Noonan req. by Donna Robertson

10:45 am — Renato Sebastian & Antonita DeJesus req. by Family

12:15 pm — Marion Robb req. by Joan Callahan & Family

Richard D. Diana req. by the Sarinelli Family

ST. CECILIA CHURCH COLLECTION GOALS**Week Ending : April 6, 2025**

Collection—Checks & Cash	\$ 9,709.00
WeShare Electronic Giving	\$ 6,386.38
Total Weekly Collection	\$ 16,095.38

Yearly Collection Goal (BUDGET)	\$ 785,000.00
Weekly Goal	\$ 14,313.73

Weekly Collection Surplus (Deficit)	\$ 1,781.65
Year To Date Surplus (Deficit)	\$ 11,211.22

St. Cecilia Church Collection Goals**Week Ending: April 13, 2025**

**Due to the early publication of the bulletin,
the collections totals for the week will be
shown next week. Thank you!**



The Paschal Candle
has been given in loving memory of
Helen E. Lucas
Donated by her daughter & son-in-law,
Lee Ann and Marty Mackin



*The Sanctuary Candle burning on our altar
this week is in loving memory of*
Rita & Angelo Bruno
Requested by Barbara & Ed Higdon

PRAY FOR THE SICK AND THEIR CAREGIVERS

Ethan Chandra, Dean Wayne Campbell, Doris Cusick, Jane Gorcica, 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 Miers, Ray Kennedy, Richard Corcoran, Madison Rose Leslie, Demetrius Barbee, Frances Finn, Dorothy Murray, Kimberly Dugan, Gale Sessa, Mike Murray, 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 DiStasio, Marty Mackin, Brian Bosworth, Dennis Dilger, Robyne LaGrotta, Christopher Darlak, Frieda Solow, Claudia Fontanella, Claire Wasacz, Emilio Viola, Martha Salvesen, Ramiro Hinojosa, Jimmy Buckley, Clare Desmond, Craig Huffman, George Stitik, Stephen Goordman, Cecilia Donofrio, Deidra Zink, Anthony Pane, Victoria Zuber, Keith Newman, Francis Sanchez, Raymond Fullam, John Sandelli, Alan Zenkert, Fran Gatzke, Bob Nielsen, Gert Taylor, Walter Zelinski, 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, Anthony D'Alessio, Katherine Lynn, Sophie Boylan, Michael Gatzke, Philip Colombrito, Esperanza Vertucci, Molly Mack, Michele Murray, Jimmy Olgeluie, Mark Howarth, Logan Mattessich, Harry Lusardi, Carmela Cragan, Bob Libak, Mary Lou Baumiller, Patricia Shea.



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, PVT Jack L. Gatzke, US Army, ENS Timothy G. Smith, US Navy, 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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EASTER SACRAMENTS – On Saturday evening at the Easter Vigil in the Holy Night those who have been under instruction in the catechumenate will receive the sacraments. Holly Gonzalez will be baptized, confirmed and receive Holy Eucharist. The following will receive the sacrament of confirmation: Casey Bozza, Timothy Jones, Allan Rzeznik and Oliver Rzeznik. Mark Griff, Sr. and Mark Griff, Jr. will be received into full communion with the Catholic Church. Join us at the Easter Vigil in the Holy Night which begins at 8 o'clock in the evening for this first liturgy celebrating our Lord's Holy Resurrection.

NO MEETINGS—All regularly scheduled meetings and faith formation programs are cancelled for Holy Week and Easter Week (April 15-26). These are times of prayer, worship and reflection as we celebrate the Passion, Death and Resurrection of Christ the Savior.—Fr. Zig

YOU ARE INVITED—Saint Catherine of Siena Parish in Mountain Lakes will sponsor a "Centennial Celebration" in honor of Saint Theresa, the Little Flower. The event takes place on Saturday, May 17th at 2 o'clock in the afternoon in the church followed by a reception in the parish center. Special music is on the agenda along with devotions to the Little Flower. Please join us. See the flyer posted on the bulletin board in the church vestibule for additional info.



Catholic Campaign for Human Development: Next week our special collection will support the Catholic Campaign for Human Development. Nearly 38 million people in the United States live in poverty. This collection supports programs that empower people to identify and address the obstacles they face in bringing permanent and positive change to their communities. Learn more about the Catholic Campaign for Human Development at www.usccb.org/cchd

We are online: www.st-cecilia.org

JUBILEE YEAR OF HOPE – His Excellency Bishop Sweeney has designated SAINT BERNARD CHURCH (22 St. Bernards Drive in Mount Hope) as a designated pilgrim site for the Diocese of Paterson. Pilgrims are welcome on Monday evenings for Holy Mass at 6:30, followed by Holy Hour and Confessions. A plenary indulgence is granted to pilgrims. Our Holy Father, Pope Francis, calls all Christians to become pilgrims of hope. This is a virtue which must be sourced above all in the grace of God and in the fullness of His mercy. A plenary indulgence is given to those who are: *truly repentant; free from any affection for sin; moved by a spirit of charity; receive the sacraments of Penance and Eucharist; and pray for the intentions of Pope Francis (1 Our Father, 1 Hail Mary and 1 Glory be...)*. A plenary indulgence is the full remission of the temporal punishment due to sins whose guilt has already been forgiven. This jubilee grace can be applied in suffrage to the souls in Purgatory through pilgrimage, whose works of mercy and penance, and visits to a Jubilee designated shrine or church, such as Saint Bernard's.

EVENTS TO ADD TO YOUR CALENDAR – You may want to add the following events to your calendar: **"Jubilee Family Fest"** sponsored by the diocese on Saturday, May 31st from 1:30-4:00 pm at Saint Joseph Shrine in Sterling; **International Celebration of Saint Frances Cabrini and Immigrants: Movie and Food** on Friday, June 13 beginning at 6:00 p.m. AND **Bus Trip to Saint Frances Cabrini Shrine** in the Bronx on Saturday, June 14 leaving at 9:30 a.m. and returning at 3:30 p.m.; **40 Hour Devotions**, Wednesday, June 18 beginning at 7:00 p.m. and ending on Friday, June 20 at 12 Noon. ALL OF THESE WILL BE PUBLISHED IN THE BULLETIN WITH DETAILS IN THE COMING WEEKS BUT FOR NOW, MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

SIGN UP TO FLOCKNOTE

If you would like to receive emails or text messages with important information regarding our parish life PLEASE SIGN UP TO FLOCKNOTE. This is all totally free for you to use, you don't even have to download anything or create a password in order to participate. You just take a couple minutes to sign up and it lets you receive email or text messages from the groups and ministries that you choose. Your info is kept totally private and, again, it lets you choose precisely which groups and ministries you want to get email and text messages from here at St. Cecilia Church.

To register simply text SCC2020 to 84576 OR go to the home page of our website: st-cecilia.org and there you will find other ways to register for this important communication tool.

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.

Monday, April 21

DMA & Parish Office Closed
NO Holy Hour or Bible Study

Tuesday, April 22

DMA Closed
NO Bible Study
7:45 pm—Light of Christ Prayer Group (Hayes Hall)

Wednesday, April 23

DMA & Parish Office closed at noon

Thursday, April 24

DMA & Parish Office closed

Friday, April 25

DMA & Parish Office closed

Saturday, April 26

10:00 am—First Holy Communion for DMA (Church)

Sunday, April 27

8:00 pm—LTP (Hayes Hall)

MONDAY NIGHT HOLY HOUR—NO HOLY HOUR will take place on Easter Monday, April 21st. Holy Hour returns on Monday, April 28th at 7:00 pm.—Fr. Zig

HAPPY EASTER – Father Matt, Sister Diane, Sister Marie Pauling, Sister Chiara Marie and Sister Luiza join with me in wishing you and your loved ones a very Happy Easter. May the Risen Christ bestow rich blessings to you and your family! – Father Zig

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION – First Holy Communion will be administered to three groups of prepared children from our parish at Masses which will be celebrated on Saturday, April 26th and May 3rd. The students of Divine Mercy Academy will receive on April 26th at 10 o'clock in the morning. The students of the CCD classes will receive at 10 o'clock in the morning and 12 o'clock Noon. Our prayers and best wishes to the children and their families. May they always hunger for Christ, the Bread of Life.

DROP BOX IN PLACE – A “drop box” has been positioned near the right side of the front door of the parish office. The box will serve as a place where communications can be picked-up or left-off after office hours.

SENIOR TRIPS—The St. Cecilia Seniors have planned the following trips:

May 13th—\$90 — River Lady Cruise & side trip to
 Delicious Orchards
 June 27th—\$120—City Cruise w/lunch and DJ

If interested or need more info, please email Pat Degnan at pattyannmarie64@yahoo.com

Divine Mercy Academy News

Registration for the 2025-2026 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.

Transfer Grants and Scholarships are available to eligible students.

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.

NO MORE PRINT EDITION – His Excellency, Bishop Kevin Sweeney has announced that the printed version of the diocesan newspaper, The Beacon, has come to a conclusion. Mounting costs and a change in readership options has contributed to this decision by diocesan leadership. The Bishop is inviting us to read the on-line version of The Beacon at <https://beaconnj.org/>. Information is also at the site for a subscription to the “Beacon and Beyond” Newsletter.

Respect Life Corner—Good News!

The Rockaway-Denville Catholic Respect Life Ministry has recently adopted a new name! We are now **The John Paul II Respect Life Ministry**, consisting of 5 parishes: Sacred Heart of Jesus, Rockaway, St. Cecilia Church, St. Mary's Church, Denville, St. Clement Church and St. Catherine of Sienna Church of Mountain Lakes.

Additionally, in the last year, we have launched a new committee: “Walking with Moms in Need”, a USCCB Initiative, to assist mothers in need of information about area resources that may be helpful to them and their family.

If you know of a mother who may require such assistance, or if you would like to help us in our John Paul II Respect Life Ministry activities, you may contact Carol McGotty, through our Parish Office at 973.627.0313.



Easter Sunday, April 20

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 27

Regular Sunday Mass Schedule
Divine Mercy Devotion 1:30 pm - 3:00 pm
at Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish

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!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED - St. Cecilia Soup Kitchen Committee are a group of men and women dedicated to creating nutritious food for the homeless and low income community of Dover, NJ. St. Cecilia's creates a meal once a month in the church basement, then transports that meal to Faith Kitchen. Faith Kitchen is housed in the Trinity Lutheran Church, 123 E. Blackwell Street, in Dover. St Cecilia volunteers will serve the lunch to recipients who are always very grateful and courteous. If you are interested in joining our group, please reach out to Deb Craig @ 973-342-4528.

MASS CARDS

We are asked to pray for the dead. The best way to do this is to have a mass celebrated in memory of a loved one.
Call the Parish Office 973-627-0313
~Offering \$15.00~

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:**



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

MEMORIAL DAY PARADE – Information will be forthcoming regarding this year's Memorial Day Parade in Rockaway Boro on Monday, May 26th. Our parish will have a float in the parade along with a walking contingent of parishioners, old and young. We will demonstrate to the community how proud and thankful we are to celebrate our parish's 150th Anniversary.

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

All are Invited

You are cordially invited to the **Final Diaconate Preaching Practicum** of the semester, which will take place at our church, **Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish in Rockaway** on **Saturday, April 26, 2025, at 10:00 AM**. Four diaconate candidates from our diocese, including our own **Elmer Maximo**, will deliver homilies based on the Sunday Scripture readings as part of their spiritual formation. The session will last approximately two hours and will be followed by light refreshments. Everyone is invited to attend and support our future deacons with your presence, prayers, and feedback. To RSVP, please email dcfmevents@gmail.com or call the parish office at (973) 627-0422.

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My dear parishioners,

CHRIST IS RISEN! TRULY HE IS RISEN! This is the greeting which was spoken by Saint Mary Magdalene when she met the Apostles on Easter Sunday morning. This is the same greeting which Christians have used in the centuries following that first Easter and throughout the season which follows.

Today is the Solemnity of Solemnities, the cause for our faith and the reason for our hope. After suffering greatly and being placed in the earth after He had died; the Lord Jesus rose triumphantly as the “first born from the dead.” The Lord shows us that death is not final but becomes the door by which we enter into eternal life. Death is the result of the sin brought into our world through Adam and Eve. Death was not brought into existence by God for He is the Creator of LIFE. Death is the work of evil and it is the devil who is the father of this darkness. Christ is the victor over the forces of evil by conquering them through His Holy Resurrection. He is the liberator who is victorious because of His great love for humankind. Love is powerful and is the destroyer of evil!

As we begin our celebration of the Easter season the Scripture readings at Mass will testify to the Church’s unwavering faith in the Lord’s Resurrection. This event shaped the Church as we will hear in our ongoing reading from the Acts of the Apostles. The post Resurrection accounts recorded in the Gospels will once again be read in our Eucharistic assemblies as well as the correspondence that was shared among the early Christians which speak of their Easter faith. All of this will allow us to reflect more intently on the meaning of Easter and how this cosmic event is the source of our joy.

Tomorrow evening a group of 20 pilgrims will accompany me to Italy for our 11 day pilgrimage which will take us to Rome, Assisi, Bari and San Giovanni Rotondo. Our first stop will be in Rome, the City of the Apostles Peter and Paul, where we will have the opportunity to walk through the HOLY DOOR during this JUBILEE YEAR OF HOPE proclaimed by our Holy Father, Pope Francis. Truly, we will be “Pilgrims of Hope” as we visit and pray at many places including the Basilica of Saint Cecilia, our Patron Saint. This church is built over the home of Cecilia and the place of her burial. I assure you that we will remember all of you, our parishioners, in our prayers at the holy places we will visit and I ask that you remember us also.

CHRIST IS RISEN! – TRULY HE IS RISEN!

Father Zig

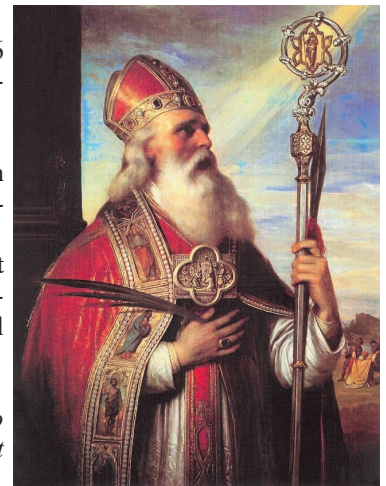
**ST. ADALBERT, Bishop and Martyr
The Same Day—April 23**

ADALBERT (whose Czech name is Vojtech) was born in Bohemia around the year 956 and completed his studies in Magdeburg. Returning home, he became a priest and eventually the second Bishop of Prague in 983.

After expanding his diocese to include Moravia, he labored to eradicate pagan customs in it. A feud between rival political factions hindered his work, so he went to Rome and became a Benedictine at the Abbey of Sts. Alexis and Boniface.

Returning to Prague at the people’s request, Adalbert found the same situation and went back to Rome. Heeding the call of the Polish Duke Boleslaw the Great, the Saint undertook to evangelize the Prussians. He met with fierce resistance and was martyred on April 23, 997.

PRAYER God, You bestowed the crown of martyrdom on St. Adalbert, You Bishop, who was animated by zeal for souls. By his intercession, grant that pastors may not be without their flocks’ obedience nor flocks without their pastors’ care. Amen.



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