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.

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

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

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.

<u>PADRE PIO PRAYER GROUP:</u> 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 Page 2 May 18, 2025 5th Sunday of Easter

Monday, May 19, Easter Weekday

6:30 am – Jean Barnette req. by Jim Mainardi

8:00 am - Margaret Desmond reg. by Carol & Frank Desmond

Tuesday, May 20, Saint Bernardine of Siena, Priest

6:30 am – Jean Barnette req. by Jim Mainardi

8:00 am - Jimmy Carroll req. by Pat Degnan

Wednesday, May 21, Saint Christopher Magallanes, Priest, Companion, Martyrs

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

8:00 am — Fred Slanovec req. by the McDonnell Family

Thursday, May 22, Saint Rita of Cascia, Religious

6:30 am - Fr. John Slysz req. by Fr. Zig

8:00 am – Special Intention

Friday, May 23, Easter Weekday

6:30 am - Special Intention

8:00 am – Angela & Francis Goritski req. by Susan Brennan

Saturday, May 24, Easter Weekday

8:00 am — Remedios & Ladislao Baricuatro req. by the Berdin-Baricuatro Family

Sunday, May 25, Sixth Sunday of Easter

4:30 pm – Deceased Members of the Antonio Veloso Family

7:00 pm – Raymond Vigh req. by Elaine & Tom

8:00 am – Ernest & Berta Juretschke req. by Ed & Mary Merz Mr. & Mrs. Patrick McCauley req. by Michael Wieczerzak

9:15 am – Daniel O'Donnell req. by the Graner Family Mark H. Noonan req. by Donna Robertson

10:45 am – James Bostjancic req. by the John Family Patricia Stolfi req. by Jeanine & Nick Losito

12:15 pm – Special Intention for Patricia Shea req. by Amy & Damiano Servido

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 Miars, 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 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, 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, 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, Jose Castillo.

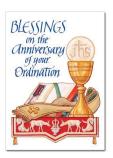
St. Cecilia Church Collection Goals
Week Ending: May 11th, 2025
Due to the early publication of the bulletin,
the collections totals for the week will be
shown next week. Thank you!

We are thankful for your consistent stewardship. oppo



The Altar Flowers
are in loving memory of
James Marmara
Requested by Rosalie & Bob Marmara

<u>HAPPY ANNIVERSARY</u> – We congratulate Father Matt on the 8th anniversary of his ordination to the Holy priesthood on Monday, May 26th. May Christ the High Priest bless him with health, strength, peace and joy as he serves the Church into his old age. STO LAT!



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. 580-St. Cecilia

ST. PADRE PIO – The June gathering of the Saint Padre Pio prayer group will take place on Wednesday, June 4th at 10 o'clock in the morning. This will be the final meeting until September. All are welcome to the gathering which will take place in the votive chapel located off the church vestibule.

<u>PENTECOST PROJECT</u> – On Pentecost Sunday, June 8th, we will announce plans for the *PENTECOST PRO-JECT* which will begin on Sunday, September 21st at the 10:45 a.m. Mass. Details will be shared on Pentecost regarding the various languages which are spoken in our parish and how we will celebrate them in the remainder of our 150th Anniversary celebration.

MONTH OF JUNE – The month of June is dedicated to the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus. Monday through Friday we will pray the Litany to the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus at the conclusion of the 8 o'clock Holy Mass.

<u>40 HOUR DEVOTIONS</u> – Shortly information will be printed in the Sunday bulletin regarding *40 HOUR DEVOTIONS* which will take place in our parish beginning Wednesday, June 18th with Holy Mass at 7 o'clock in the evening along with an outdoor candlelight procession with the Most Blessed Sacrament. 40 HOURS will close with a Benediction service on Friday, June 20th at 12 Noon. Additional information will be forthcoming.

We are online: www.st-cecilia.org

<u>MEMORIAL DAY MASS</u> – Only one Mass will be celebrated on Memorial Day, Monday, May 26th at 9 o'clock in the morning. The Mass will take place at the parish cemetery (you are reminded to bring a lawn chair). In the event of inclement weather the Mass will take place in the church.

PARISH PARTICIPATION IN MEMORIAL DAY

PARADE – Weather permitting, our parish will participate in the Memorial Day parade which will take place in the Borough on Monday, May 26th. To celebrate our 150th Parish Anniversary we will enter a float along with a walking contingent of parishioners. Please see the parish website for registration information. Participants will wear a uniform commemorative anniversary tee shirt. Information regarding sizes, etc. may also be found on the parish website. (The parade begins at 11 a.m. on East Main Street and Beach Street. The parade concludes at the Presbyterian Church parking lot across from Saint Cecilia's.) Join us to express our proud parish spirit in the community in which our church is found!

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.

THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS – Recognizing a vital practical need in his community, 29 year old Father Michael McGivney proposed establishing a lay organization, the goal of which would be to unite men of Catholic faith and to provide for the families of deceased members. To symbolize that allegiance to their country did not conflict with allegiance to their faith, the organization took as its patron Christopher Columbus, who was recognized as a Catholic and celebrated as the discoverer of the Americas. Thanks to Father McGivney's persistence, the Knights of Columbus officially assumed corporate status in 1882.

For information on the Knights of Columbus please go to www.KofC.org/joinus. Saint Cecilia Parish is served by two councils: #3359-Our Lady of the Lakes Council (Denville) and #514-Lafayette Council (Wharton). ALL CATHOLIC MEN ARE ENCOURAGED TO SEEK MEMBERSHIP IN THE KNIGHTS!

Parish Summer Office Hours:

Starting after Memorial Day until Labor Day Monday thru Thursday: 8:30—4:00 (Lunch 12:00—1:00) Friday: Closed

PEW KNEELERS – I am planning to install new pew kneelers in the church. The company I am dealing with has installed a sample which is located on the right side aisle, behind the handicap section near the confessional. I hope the project will take place sometime in June and I will be seeking your support by asking for your donation to fund this project. I know I can count on your generosity because of the love you have for our beautiful church! – Father Zig

Monday, May 19

7:00 pm—Holy Hour (Church)

7:30 pm—Bible Study (Hayes Hall)

Tuesday, May 20

NO BIBLE STUDY

12:00 pm—Seniors Meeting (Hayes Hall)

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

Wednesday, May 21

Thursday, May 22

Friday, May 23

Saturday, May 24

9:00 am—Secure Shredding Event (Parking Lot)

8:00 pm—After Cana (Hayes Hall)

Sunday, May 25

8:00 pm—LTP (Hayes Hall)

PARISH BUS TRIP – A day trip to the Shrine of Saint Frances Xavier Cabrini, Patron Saint of Immigrants, will take place on Saturday, June 14th. The bus will depart from the parish parking lot at 9 a.m. and will return approximately 3:30 p.m. The trip includes Holy Mass at the shrine, a tour of the shrine and museum documenting the work of Saint Frances Cabrini as well as a visit to the shrine book store. A presentation on the life of Saint Frances will be given with an opportunity to stroll the grounds of the shrine. Lunch will be provided. The cost is \$70 per person which includes bus transportation and driver's trip, lunch and a donation to the shrine. Registration must be done by calling the parish office (973.627.0313) and speak to Janet. The deadline for registration is May 23rd. The bus is filling up so don't delay. Payment is due at registration. Checks should be made payable to: St. Cecilia Church. THIS IS ONE OF OUR PARISH ANNIVERSARY EVENTS WHICH REMINDS US THAT "WE WERE ALL IMMI-GRANTS AT ONE TIME!"

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTER OF HOLY COM-

MUNION – As I had announced prior to Easter the distribution of the Precious Blood of our Lord will take place every Sunday at the 10:45 a.m. Mass. Since the pandemic the number of extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion has diminished. Should you feel called to serve in this ministry, especially needed at the 10:45 Mass, please speak with me or Father Matt. Training, commissioning and commitment are required. – Father Zig

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.



Registration for Religious Education classes for the 2025-2026 will be opening soon. Be sure to check the parish website for more details.

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 launches 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.

FIRST FRIDAY VISITS—Father Matt and I visit the homebound on the first Friday of every month with the Holy Eucharist and the availability for confession as well. Should you or someone you know like for the priest to visit them on first Friday, please call the parish office and leave your name and phone number so that we may add you to our schedule. - Fr. Zig

Please visit the kiosk in the vestibule of the church to see our nice selection of books that are for sale.

\$4.00 each

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 PARISH-IONER? 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

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!

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*

SHREDDING EVENT – The Men's Society is sponsoring a shredding event on Saturday, May 24th from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the parish parking lot. Bring your confidential documents for shredding and keep them out of the hands of scammers! This is a fund raising event for the society and we thank you for your support!

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.

St. Cecilia's Summer Bible Camp 2025!! Tuesday, June 24th – Friday, June 27th 4:00 – 6:00 pm We are excited to bring back our parish summer bible camp. This experience is for children ages 4-10, and will include games, food, music, lessons, prayer, and lots of special surprises for the kids. Registration must be done online by visiting the parish website. \$ 50 for 1 child, \$75 for 2 or more children. Please contact the parish office if you have any questions.

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:





My dear parishioners,

In our Eucharistic gathering for the Lord's Day we celebrate the Fifth Sunday of Easter. I write this Sunday's article to you on May 8th shortly after "tearing myself away" from the television after watching the news regarding our new Holy Father, Pope Leo XIV. In the Holy Father's opening address to the faithful he reminded us of God's love for us and how dear each and every one of us is to the Lord. In this Sunday' Gospel we hear the words of the Lord Jesus to His Apostles speaking to them about the love they should have for one another and that this will define them as His disciples.

In our continuous Easter reading of Acts of the Apostles we follow the missionary journey of the Apostle Paul and his companion Barnabas. Their service in spreading the Good News of what God has done for us in His Son, the Risen Christ, is met with suffering. The perseverance of the disciples in their ministry does bring success in the gathering of Gentiles into the Church. Our new Holy Father had served as a missionary in South America for many years and is familiar with the importance of spreading the Gospel as the Lord commanded His disciples. Pope Francis regularly reminded the Catholic faithful of the call to be "missionary disciples." This means that we do not need to go off to a foreign land and witness to the faith, not at all. The mission territory is right here in our community. The people we are called to witness to are our family members, neighbors and co-workers with whom we come in contact with on a regular basis. To those who do not know Christ and "the power of His Resurrection", to them we show Christ by our way of life. Just as the Apostles saw an enormous missionary field ahead of them, so too do we have much work to do in the secular world in which we live.

As we read Acts of the Apostles we see that the disciples of the Risen Jesus were successful in their ministry because of the strength they were able to receive from prayer, the Eucharist and from one another. Their coming together to celebrate the Lord's Day each week provided the opportunity for this to happen in a most wonderful way. They were fortified to meet the challenges the world placed before them and these did not deter them in their mission as disciples.

How grateful we are to the Lord for the gift of our new Holy Father, Pope Leo XIV. May the Petrine Ministry which he begins guide the Universal Church in its service of spreading the Gospel through its preaching and Apostolic works.

CHRIST IS RISEN – TRULY HE IS RISEN! Father Zig

ST. BERNARDINE OF SIENA, Priest May 20 – Patron of Advertisers

THE Republic of Siena was the country of St. Bernardine. He was born at Massa in that territory in 1380. Left an orphan at an early age, he was educated by his pious aunt, who loved him as if he had been her own son. Even his first years were brightened by his proficiency in study.

As a member of the Confraternity of Our Lady, he served the sick in the hospital; nor did he desist when the great pestilence broke out in 1400. He even persuaded other young men to share these arduous labors. Four years later he entered among the Fathers of the Strict Observance of the Order of St. Francis.

On becoming a priest he devoted himself to the office of preaching. For fourteen years his labors were confined to his own country, where devotion to the Holy Name of Jesus, which he extolled, became widespread. As his reputation spread, however, he gradually became the apostle of Italy in the 15th century. In 1427, he refused the Bishopric of Siena; in 1431, that of Ferrara; and again, in 1435, the diocese of Urbino. The wondrous results of his sermons became a byword.

Though he was followed by honors and applause, the most sincere humility appeared in his actions, and he always sought to conceal the talents with which God had endowed him. In 1435, he was appointed vicar-general of the Strict Observance, but after five years he obtained his release from this office and in his old age continued the work of preaching in Romania, Ferrara, and Lombardy. He died in 1444 and was canonized in 1450 by Pope Nicholas V.

PRAYER God, You gave St. Bernardine Your Priest an exceeding love for the Name of Jesus. Through his merits and prayers grant that we may ever be inflamed with love for You. Amen

Taken from, Lives of the Saints; Catholic Booking Publishing Company, 1999, New Jersey

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

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