## 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 Summer Office Hours:**

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

#### **The Most Holy Trinity**

#### Monday, June 16, Eleventh Week in Ordinary Time

6:30 am – Feliza Dirige req. by Jenny & Reggie Mendoza & Family

8:00 am – Maria Iwanczuk req. by Barbara Quinby

#### Tuesday, June 17, Weekday

6:30 am – Deceased Members of the Will Family

8:00 am – Ken Lienhardt reg. by Clare & Phil Wascaz

#### Wednesday, June 18, Weekday

6:30 am – Victoria Santana

8:00 am - Charles Cirella req. by Noreen Breslauer

#### Thursday, June 19, Saint Romuald, Abbot

6:30 am – Laura Buro req. by her sons

8:00 am – For the sick listed in our bulletin and their caregivers

#### Friday, June 20, Weekday

6:30 am – Betty Jean Polito req. by Family

8:00 am – Gerard Cunningham req. by Ed & Mary Merz

#### Saturday, June 21, Saint Aloysius Gonzaga, Religious

8:00 am — Spiritual Bouquet for the Fathers

#### Sunday, June 22, The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ

4:30 pm – Edward Breslauer req. by his wife, Noreen Joseph V. DeLiberto, Jr., req. by Elaine & Tom Potkalesky

7:00 pm – Bill Frankle req. by Teresa Wilkes Bill Gallagher req. by his daughter, Jan

8:00 am – Barrett Leonard req. by Ann Whalen Mr. & Mrs. Michael Wieczerzak req. by Michael Wieczerzak, Jr.

9:15 am – Holy Souls in Purgatory

10:45 am — Bill Frankle req. by Teresa Wilkes

Renato Sebastian & Antonita DeJesus req. by Family

12:15 pm – Sylvia Severnak req. by Goginsky Family Hiram Gonzalez Nieves req. by Bozza Family

#### ST. CECILIA CHURCH COLLECTION GOALS Week Ending: June 8, 2025 Collection—Checks & Cash 7,149.02 3,837.90 WeShare Electronic Giving Total Weekly Collection 10,986.92 Yearly Collection Goal (BUDGET) \$ 785,000.00 Weekly Goal 14,313.73 Weekly Collection Surplus (Deficit) (3,326.81)18,662.30 **Year To Date Surplus (Deficit)**

We are **thankful** for your consistent stewardship. @ppc



The Sanctuary Candle burning on our altar is in loving memory of
Edward Breslauer
reg. by his wife, Noreen

JULY 4<sup>TH</sup> MASS — Only one Mass will be celebrated on Friday, July 4<sup>th</sup> at 9 o'clock in the morning at the parish cemetery. Those who attend are reminded to bring a lawn chair. In the event of inclement weather the Mass will take place in the church.

#### 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, Lyle Ryder, Joseph Bardi.

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

<u>HAPPY FATHERS DAY</u> – On behalf of myself, Father Matt, Sister Diane, Sister Marie Pauline, Sister Chiara Marie and Sister Luisa I wish all fathers, grandfathers, God fathers and step fathers a very Happy Fathers Day. Through the intercession of Saint Joseph, may the Lord bless you with health, peace, joy and strength! – Father Zig

PEW KNEELERS TO BE REPLACED – Prior to September the kneelers at the pews in the church will be replaced. The new kneelers will be padded and spring mechanized to reduce the noise which comes when the kneelers are not put down properly! In order to pay for this project I am asking each family for a donation of \$50. I believe this is a fair donation which is affordable to just about all of our parishioners. It is my prayer that all of our parishioners will generously participate in this appeal. Please make your check payable to: St. Cecilia Church, memo: kneelers. I thank you for the love and support you show our parish as we celebrate our 150 Anniversary. – Father Zig

**PROJECT: SPEAKING IN TONGUES** – Our parish is composed of a variety of nationalities which I often compare Saint Cecilia's to the United Nations. The various ethnic groups which form our parish make our church family rich and vibrant. To celebrate our cultural makeup I would like to do something in September which came from our 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee, that is, to celebrate the Holy Mass in a different language. To be clear: this would take place only at the Sunday 10:45 Mass and the Mass parts which would be in the designated language are the Scripture readings and the bringing forth of the gifts at the Offertory. Therefore, I am seeking volunteers who speak their ethnic language to contact me if you are willing to assist in this effort. I would like to begin the first of these Masses on Sunday, September 21st and follow each week until we conclude. Please contact me as soon as possible so that the schedule can be made and the appropriate Scripture readings assigned. - Father Zig

SUMMERTIME READING—A limited number of copies of a short book produced by Bishop Robert Barron entitled, "What Christians Believe: Understanding the Nicene Creed" are available on the table located in the church vestibule for your summertime reading. The books were donated by a generous parishioner and are offered to those who are serious in reading the book during this 1700th anniversary of the Council of Nicea (325 A.D.) which produced the creed we proclaim every Sunday. A group discussion of the text may take place in the fall for those who may be interested.

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.

<u>HOLY HOUR CONCLUSION</u> – Monday evening Holy Hour will conclude on June 30<sup>th</sup>. Holy Hour will be suspended during the summer months of July and August. Monday evening Holy Hour will return on September 8<sup>th</sup>.

<u>5<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY ROSARY</u> – The 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Month Rosary will take place on Sunday, June 29<sup>th</sup> in Sacred Heart of Jesus Church on East Main Street beginning at 3 o'clock in the afternoon. The Rosary is prayed along with the Divine Mercy Chaplet. This service is sponsored by the Knights of Columbus Council 3359 and is open to all.

JUBILEE OF ECUMENISM – Bishop Kevin Sweeney will preside at an ecumenical service to commemorate the 1,700<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Council of Nicea and the Nicean Creed on Sunday, June 22<sup>nd</sup>. The service will take place in the Cathedral of Saint John the Baptist in Paterson at 3 o'clock in the afternoon with the participation of Catholic, Orthodox and Protestant clergy. All are welcome! Father Zig is planning to attend.

YOUNG MEN – The diocese is sponsoring the 2025 QUO VADIS RETREAT on Thursday, June 26<sup>th</sup> at Camp Shiloh in Hewitt (West Milford) from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. There is no fee for participants. The retreat is for young men grades 8 through 12. There is food (3 meals provided), fraternity (opportunities to make new friends), and outdoor adventures (swimming, hiking, zip-lining, rock climbing, archery and much more). The day ends with a campfire. Bishop Sweeney will celebrate an outdoor Mass. Registration is required which is available through the QR code on the promotional information or on the website at patersonvocations.org.

#### Monday, June 16

7:00 pm—Holy Hour (Church)

#### Tuesday, June 17

12:00 pm—Seniors Meeting (Hayes Hall)

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

#### Wednesday, June 18

7:00 pm—40 Hour Devotions (Church)

#### Thursday, June 19

40 Hour Devotions continue (Church)

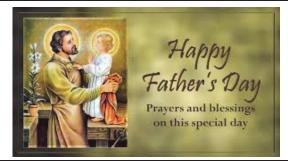
#### Friday, June 20

12:00 pm—Benediction Service to conclude 40 Hour Devotions (Church)

#### Saturday, June 21

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

Sunday, June 22



#### ASSUMPTION COLLEGE FOR SISTERS SEEKS

WORLD CIVILIZATION INSTRUCTOR—ACS invites applications for an instructor to teach World Civilization— HI 101, a three-credit course designed for second-year international students. This course offers a global overview of major civilizations, cultural exchanges, political and economic systems, and religious traditions from ancient times to the early modern era. If interested, contact:

academicdean@acs350.org

# THE SISTERS OF CHRISTIAN CHARITY— Welcome you to Concert on the Lawn at 350 Bernardsville Rd, Mendham, on June 21 @ 5:30 pm—8:30 pm featuring the band Back In Time! Open to all ages—bring your blankets & chairs. Please check our website for more details:

www.secus.org/concert

#### EXTRAORDINARY MINISTER OF HOLY COM-

<u>MUNION</u> – 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 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.

**SENIOR TRIPS:** The City Cruise, June 27th - Trip around Manhattan with Lunch and DJ. \$120.00.

Hunterdon Hills Playhouse - November 18th - Christmas Show \$105.00

For more information contact Pat Degnan, pattyannmarie64@yahoo.com

**40 HOUR DEVOTIONS** – Forty Hour Devotions, a celebration with the Most Blessed Sacrament, will take place in our parish beginning on Wednesday evening, June 18th and conclude at noon on Friday, June 20<sup>th</sup>. We will begin with Holy Mass on Wednesday evening at 7 o'clock followed by an outdoor candlelight procession with the Most Blessed Sacrament. The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed on the altar for 40 hours until the Benediction Service on Friday beginning at 12 Noon. During the 40 hours parishioners will be needed to sign up for a designated hour to keep vigil before Our Lord in the Most Blessed Sacrament. The sign up may be done on line by going to the parish website OR by signing up at the registration spot located in the church vestibule. Three people are needed for each hour during the day and at night. I am hoping every family in our parish will participate, both old and young, as we come in vigil before the Holy Eucharist. Catechetical information regarding the practice of 40 Hours will be made available. I pray that our love and devotion for the Lord Jesus present in the Most Blessed Sacrament will be shown in our participation in this vigil and that great blessings will arise for our parish as a result of these Eucharistic days. - Father Zig

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.

CORPUS CHRISTI FOOD DRIVE - The annual diocesan food drive will take place in conjunction with the Feast of Corpus Christi on Saturday and Sunday, June 21 and 22. This project is being conducted to assist the diocesan food pantries in Morris, Passaic and Sussex Counties (Diocese of Paterson) which are experiencing shortages as they serve the poor. Our parish is asked to bring in the following items: PANCAKE MIX, PANCAKE SYRUP, and SHAM-POO. These items may be brought to Hayes Hall and placed on the designated tables which are clearly marked but no later than June 22<sup>nd</sup>. Monetary donations will be accepted and can be made on line at www.ccpaterson.org/ corpus. You may also place your check in our offering basket when you come to Mass. Please make your check payable to: St. Cecilia Church, memo: food drive OR Catholic Charities-Diocese of Paterson.

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* 

#### 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.

#### **CRAFT FAIR**

November 8, 2025 Crafters and Vendors Welcome! Email: saintceciliarosarysociety@gmail.com Phone: 973-886-8023

> Our Condolences to the Family of *Chad Dalzell*Eternal Rest Grant to him Lord

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,

As we return to ORDINARY TIME we commemorate today the Feast of the Most Holy Trinity. The focus in our liturgical celebration is the mystery of God who has revealed Himself in Three Divine Person: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. The Scripture Texts provide us with insights into this mystery. In the Gospel passage we hear the Lord Jesus speak of His Father and the Holy Spirit as a community of love. This Trinity in Unity is the constant theme which pervades the Apostle Paul's correspondence with the early Church. The Apostle speaks of God's love for us which was demonstrated in the Sacrifice of His Only Begotten Son for our salvation. This love has been poured into our hearts through the power of the Holy Spirit who unifies and empowers us to serve in the building up the Kingdom of God on earth. Lastly, today's Old Testament reading from the Book of Proverbs presents the scene of "Hagia Sophia" (Greek: "Holy Wisdom", one of the names given to the Lord Jesus) who is present as the Creator is crafting into existence that which is, the universe. This Sunday's Scriptural readings provide a wonderful basis for our meditation as we praise God for loving us and saving us in Christ Jesus.

Our Holy Father, Pope Leo's Papal Coat of Arms contains the Latin words: IN ILLO UNO UNUM, which is translated "In the One we are one." Of course, this Trinitarian reference is one which we can reflect upon today and know that we are incorporated into the very life of God. Indeed, God invites us into the Divine life via the sacraments and especially through the Holy Eucharist in which we become one with Christ and each other. Holy Communion becomes our communion and the pledge for future glory.

Next Sunday we will commemorate the Feast of the Most Holy Body and Blood of the Lord which is commonly called COR-PUS CHRISTI. This feast will reaffirm our faith in the real presence of the Lord in the Most Blessed Sacrament. Being a Polish American I know that this feast in Polish is BOZE CIALO, which is translated "God's Body." Yes, God's Body is that which we consume and become. We receive the Lord in the Eucharist and in this way we are strengthened to move in the world as God's body called to love and serve all.

God is One and we become one in Him and with each other in Holy Communion as we pray: GLORY TO THE FATHER, THE SON AND THE HOLY SPIRIT!

GLORY TO JESUS CHRIST-GLORY FOREVER! Father Zig

## ST. ALOYSIUS GONZAGA, Religious June 21 - Patron of Catholic Youth

This youthful scion of the illustrious house of Gonzaga, son of Ferdinand, Marquis of Castiglione, was born at Castiglione in the diocese of Brescia, March 9, 1568. From his tenderest years St. Aloysius devoted himself heart and soul to the service of his Creator. His memory has come to us with the sweet fragrance of the most unsullied purity. He united an innocence perfectly angelic with a penance truly heroic.

At fourteen years of age he accompanied his father to Spain, where the latter went to attend the Empress, Maria of Austria, wife of Maximilian II. Phillip II made him page to Prince James, elder, brother of Philip II. His innocence remained uncontaminated amid the vanities of the court, nor could the world draw his heart from God.

On his return to Italy in 1584, he manifested his desire to enter the Society of Jesus. In spite of opposition, he finally succeeded in carrying out his intentions and became a novice at Rome in 1585, during the pontificate of Pope Pius V. He made his profession November 20, 1587, and soon after received minor orders.

From the beginning of his religious life St. Aloysius was a model of perfection. During an epidemic in Rome in 1591, he distinguished himself by his charity toward the sick in the hospital. These labors brought on him the illness that ended in his death. His last days were the faithful echo of his briefly consummated life. He exchanged time for eternity on June 21, 1591, at twenty-four years of age. St. Aloysius was canonized in 1726 by Pope Benedict XIII.

PRAYER God, Author of all heavenly gifts. You gave St. Aloysius both a wonderful innocence of life and a deep spirit of penance. Through his merits grant that we may imitate his penitence. Amen

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

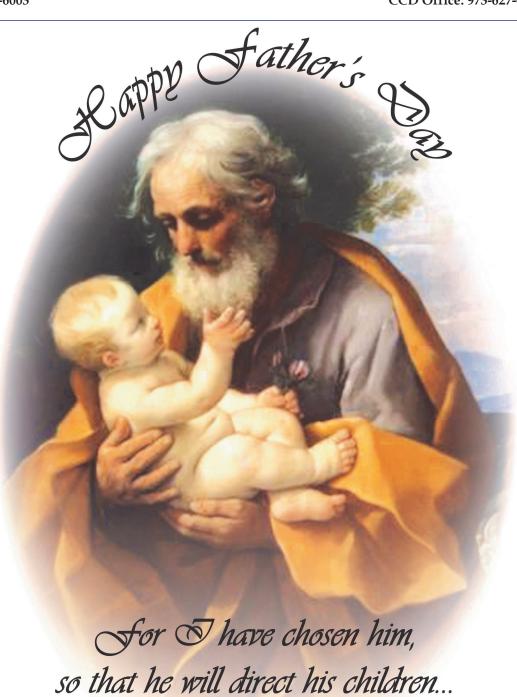
## Saint Cecilia Parish 90 Church Street Rockaway, New Jersey 07866

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to keep the way of the Rord. OJPPC

Genesis 18:19