

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 or by email.

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, September 1, Weekday

9:00 am — Holy Mass for Labor Day at the Cemetery

Tuesday, September 2, Weekday

6:30 am — Elizabeth & Leon Degnan req. by Pat Degnan

8:00 am — Eleanor & Thomas Sullivan req. by Dianna & John Sullivan

Wednesday, September 3, Saint Gregory the Great, Pope and Doctor of the Church

6:30 am — Catherine & Jim Carroll req. by Pat Degnan

8:00 am — Catherine & James Carroll, Sr., req. by Pat Degnan

Thursday, September 4, Weekday

6:30 am — Frederick J. Slanovec req. by McDonnell Family

8:00 am — Elizabeth & Leon Degnan req. by Pat Degnan

Friday, September 5, St. Teresa of Calcutta

6:30 am — Arthur Valletta

8:00 am — William & Veronica McKinney req. by Peggy McKinney

Saturday, September 6, Weekday

8:00 am — Deceased Members of the Rosary Society

Sunday, September 7, Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time4:30 pm — Pat & Jack Zayac req. by the Waskas Family
Sarah Lombardo req. by Elizabeth Loden

7:00 pm — Martha Salvesen req. by St. Cecilia Parish

8:00 am — Ernest & Berta Juretschke req. by Ed & Mary Merz

9:15 am — Emil Elias req. by Donald Elias & Family

10:45 am — Celedonia Padro Diaz req. by Silva Family
Berardino Squeo req. by his wife, Marie

12:15 pm — Gerald Pagano, Sr., req. by the Pagano Family

Sophie & Stanley Calke req. by Fr. Zig

Waclaw Ptak req. by the Ptak Family

ST. CECILIA CHURCH COLLECTION GOALS**Week Ending : August 17, 2025**

Collection—Checks & Cash	\$ 11,129.00
WeShare Electronic Giving	\$ 4,647.80
Total Weekly Collection	\$ 15,776.80

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

Weekly Collection Surplus (Deficit)	\$ 1,463.07
Year To Date Surplus (Deficit)	\$ 2,280.82

ST. CECILIA CHURCH COLLECTION GOALS**Week Ending : August 24, 2025**

Collection—Checks & Cash	\$ 8,991.00
WeShare Electronic Giving	\$ 4,647.80
Total Weekly Collection	\$ 13,638.80

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

Weekly Collection Surplus (Deficit)	\$ (674.93)
Year To Date Surplus (Deficit)	\$ 1,605.90

HOLY HOUR RESUMES – Monday evening Holy Hour resumes on September 8th from 7 to 8 o'clock. The sacrament of penance also takes place at this time. The hour concludes with the praying of the Divine Mercy Chaplet.

PRAY FOR THE SICK AND THEIR CAREGIVERS

Ethan Chandra, Dean Wayne Campbell, 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 Cumiskey, Dennis O'Brien, Steven Simmons, Ariel, James DiStaiso, Marty Mackin, Brian Bosworth, Dennis Dilger, Robyne LaGrotta, Frieda Solow, Claire Wasacz, Emilio Viola, 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 Olge-luie, Mark Howarth, Logan Mattessich, Harry Lusardi, Carmela Cragan, Bob Libak, Mary Lou Baumiller, Patricia Shea, Jose Castillo, Joseph Bardi, Gloria Benson, William Serafin, Eleanor Sala.



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

SALE BEGINS ON SEPTEMBER 7TH...

ANNIVERSARY BANQUET TICKETS – Tickets for the 150th Gala Anniversary Banquet which will take place at the Hanover Manor in East Hanover on Saturday, November 22nd beginning at 6 o'clock in the evening will now go on sale. This is a formal dinner and all inclusive with tickets being sold at \$70 for adults; \$60 for seniors; and \$30 for children. Tickets will be sold after all Sunday Masses as well as being available at the parish office. We are limited to 350 attendees so tickets should be purchased as soon as possible. You do not want to miss this grand event as we come together to celebrate our wonderful parish and the blessing that it is to us! – Father Zig

150TH ANNIVERSARY SUPER RAFFLE – In conjunction with our 150th Parish Anniversary grand finale on Saturday, November 22nd, we are conducting a “super raffle” with the winners being announced at the grand banquet at the Hanover Manor. The cost is \$20 per ticket with 5,000 tickets printed. The Grand Prize is \$20,000, 2nd Prize is \$1,500 and 3rd Prize is \$500 (If less than 2,200 tickets are sold, payout will be 50/50 split with one grand prize). Tickets are available after Mass in the church vestibule on Sunday or from the parish office during business hours.

ANNIVERSARY JOURNAL AD – An information sheet regarding the placement of an ad in our parish's 150th ANNIVERSARY JOURNAL is located on the bulletin table located in the church vestibule. Should your family or business like to be included in this commemorative publication, please complete the form and return it to the parish office as soon as possible. Also, if there is a business or professional group which you are familiar with, I would ask that you present our request for an ad. I truly appreciate your support in this project which will be a source of parish pride and become a historical document for future years. – Father Zig

OCIA

(The Order of Christian Initiation of Adults)

OCIA BEGINS SOON Have you been worshipping with us, but have never officially taken the step to become Catholic? Are you seeking a relationship with Jesus, but have not been Baptized or Confirmed or have not received First Communion? Are you married to a Catholic, but just don't know the next step to become Catholic? The Order of Christian Initiation of Adults is a wonderful process by which nonCatholics learn and normally enter the Catholic Faith. OCIA is also for baptized Catholics who missed receiving Eucharist or Confirmation. Contact Sister Diane: sdmoughan@gmail.com

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 Leo, 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 (I Our Father, I Hail Mary and I 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.

WORLD DAY OF GRANDPARENTS AND THE ELDERLY

– the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops invites us to commemorate the “World Day of Grandparents and the Elderly” on Sunday, September 7th. A blessing will be given at all Masses, including the Vigil Masses on Saturday, September 6th. This commemoration aims to be an opportunity to reflect on how the presence of grandparents and the elderly is a sign of hope in every family and parish.

LITURGY OF THE WORD FOR CHILDREN – “Liturgy of the Word for Children” will resume on Sunday, September 7th and takes place every Sunday at the 9:15 Holy Mass. The young children, accompanied by parents should they like, leave the church for the first part of the Mass and go to Hayes Hall where the catechists proclaim the Sunday Scripture readings from the Children's Lectionary and offer a brief reflection. In addition, we are always looking for assistance with this program and invite interested parents to contact Denise Montalto-Rook, Leslie Graner and Sister Chiara Marie for information.

PROJECT: SPEAKING IN TONGUES – Due to a sluggish response, “Project: Speaking in Tongues” will be postponed to the Spring. At that time we will revisit the program which will provide an opportunity to hear parts of the Sunday 10:45 a.m. Holy Mass in the languages which are represented in our multi-ethnic parish of Saint Cecilia. For more information, please contact Father Zig.

Registration for Religious Education classes for the 2025- 2026 is open on our web-site.

Monday, September 1*Labor Day—DMA & Parish Office closed***Tuesday, September 2***First Day of School Kindergarten—8th**7:45 pm—Light of Christ Prayer Group (Hayes Hall)***Wednesday, September 3***First Day of School Pre-Kindergarten**11:00 am—Padre Pio Prayer Meeting (Church)**7:00 pm—Carnival Meeting (Hayes Hall)**7:00 pm—Choir Practice (Church)***Thursday, September 4****Friday, September 5****Saturday, September 6***8:00 am—Rosary Society Meeting (Hayes Hall)**11:00 am—Backpack Blessing—All Welcome (CH & HH)***Sunday, September 7***9:15 am—Children's Liturgy (Hayes Hall)*

MARY'S HANDS – Catholic Charities in the Diocese of Paterson has a program entitled, “Mary’s Hands” which serves the poorest and most vulnerable families in our community and provide a place where they can seek immediate support. Mary’s Hands offers compassion and dignity to each client. We support the integrity of the family and recognize children as a precious gift. We serve as client advocates focusing on mothers with young children living in poverty. For more information about Mary’s Hands and to learn how you can get involved in supporting this good work email us at maryshands@margaretchurch.org or visit <https://ccpaterson.org/maryshands>.



I would like to extend my sincere thanks to Pat Degnan, Karen Kufall, Peggy McKinney, Agnes Maye and Bernadette McCoach for cleaning the kitchen in Hayes Hall. I truly appreciate their work in keeping our facility clean.

My appreciation to Neil Van Scoy for the continued work he does in landscaping the area around the church and parish office.

May God Bless all those who volunteer their time and labor for the good of our parish.—Fr. Zig

THE WORK HAS BEGUN—The work has begun in removing the two broken air conditioning units from the sacristy roof. Work has also begun on replacing the roof above the sacristies. Two new units will be installed this week. This project has been financed through the generosity of a parish family who wishes to remain anonymous.

Divine Mercy Academy News

Enrollment for the 2025-2026 school year at Divine Mercy Academy in Rockaway is underway!

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 extra-curricular 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 is now open for the 50th Annual Pumpkin Classic Golf Outing,

hosted by the Knights of Columbus, Our Lady of the Lakes Council #3359, to benefit Divine Mercy Academy in Rockaway, NJ. Join us on Friday, October 10, 2025, at Rock Ridge Golf Course in Hackettstown for a day of golf, fellowship, and community spirit. The \$175 golfer package includes breakfast, golf with cart, on-course refreshments, commemorative gifts, and buffet dinner. Dinner-only tickets are \$50. Registration opens at 7:45 a.m., golf begins at 9:00 a.m., and dinner with awards and raffles follows at 2:00 p.m. Sponsorships are available starting at \$100. Proceeds support the students of Divine Mercy Academy—come play, sponsor, or dine and be part of this 50th anniversary tradition! To register go to www.kofc3359.org

Stay Connected with Us Online! Want to keep up with the latest events, uplifting messages, and community updates from our parish? Follow us on our official social media channels! Facebook | Instagram | TikTok: @SaintCeciliaChurch You can follow Fr. Matt on his YouTube channel for heartfelt weekly reflections podcast - <https://youtube.com/frmattdarlak>

Like, follow, and share to help us spread faith, joy, and love beyond the church walls.

Let's grow in faith together — online and offline!

FILIPINO SAINTS CELEBRATION: The Diocesan Commission for Catholic Filipino Ministries (DCCFM) invites you to the annual celebration honoring our two Filipino saints: San Lorenzo Ruiz and San Pedro Calungsod, on September 20, 2025 (Saturday). The celebration's highlight will be a Mass presided over by Bishop Kevin J. Sweeney at 11:30 AM at Saint Philip the Apostle Parish, 797 Valley Road, Clifton, NJ 07013. Please contact DCCFM President **Elmer Maximo** at (973)664-1949 or email DCCFM at dccfmevents@gmail.com for more information. Thank you.

You are cordially invited to the Sisters of Christian Charity's Family Fun Day! The event will be on our Motherhouse grounds in Mendham, NJ. There will be a bounce house, games and races, face painting, sand art, slime making, scavenger hunt, prizes, and food trucks available. Picnicking on the grounds is also welcome! Proceeds will go to the education and support of girls courageously entering the first stage of becoming a Sister (postulant) directly out of high school. Cost is \$20 per child (3 and under free). Register at <https://sccus.org/familyfunday>, and walk-ins are welcome! God bless you!

THE BLOOD PRESSURE MINISTRY—we are looking for nurses to help at the Saturday 4:30 PM Mass on the second Sunday once a month. If you can help, please call through the Rectory Office at 973-627-0313 and leave your name and cell phone number. We would be most grateful. Thank you!

CHECK OUT SAINT PAUL'S – Saint Paul Inside the Walls in Madison is hosting several programs this fall which may be of interest to you. Please go to the website: www.insidethewalls.org for information on such things as: "Theology of the Body Certificate"; "Coffee With Kupke: Live Podcast Recording"; "Young Adult Retreat"; and "In the Beginning: A Theology of the Body Seminar".

NEW JERSEY MARCH FOR LIFE – Join pro-life advocates from around New Jersey to peacefully rally and march in Trenton for the dignity of the human person. The event begins with Holy Mass in the Cathedral of Saint Mary of the Assumption (Trenton) at 9:30 a.m.; the Rally at 11 a.m.; March to the Statehouse at 12 Noon. Bus transportation is available at \$35 per person for registration please go to: www.insidethewalls.org.

Our Condolences to the Family of
**Claudia Fontanella, Susie Craig and
Albert Green**
Eternal Rest Grant to them Lord

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

PREPARING HEARTS, MINDS, AND FUTURES - At Morris Catholic High School in Denville, we believe *Every Student Matters*. A premier, faith-filled co-ed Catholic education that prepares students not just for college, but for a lifetime of success. Morris Catholic offers generous financial aid and transportation including a shuttle from the Denville train station. *Transfer applications are still being accepted for the 2025-2026 school year!* **Discover the difference.** Learn more today: www.morriscatholic.org admissions@morriscatholic.org

LITTLE FLOWER CELEBRATION – Saint Catherine of Siena Parish in Mountain Lakes (10 North Pocono Road) will sponsor a celebration in honor of the feast of Saint Theresa of the Child Jesus on Sunday, September 21st at 2 o'clock in the afternoon. His Excellency, Bishop Kevin Sweeney will preside at the service which will include bagpipers, a Broadway singer and a Knights of Columbus representation. For further information please call Carol Bsarany at 973.271.9252.

SHREDDING EVENT—Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish, 63 E. Main St, Rockaway, is having a shredding event on Saturday, **September 13th**, from 9:00 am—12:00 pm. Suggested donations: \$10.00 for a bag.

CONSIDER SAINT CECILIA – I ask that "You consider Saint Cecilia" when you are preparing your will or thinking about how you are going to distribute your assets in the future. Our parish has been your spiritual home providing you and your family with pastoral care in good times and in bad. Your financial gift will help further the mission of proclaiming the Gospel in our community, so please CONSIDER SAINT CECILIA! –

**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,

With joy we gather on this 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time to commemorate the Lord's Day with the celebration of the Eucharist. The subject of HUMILITY emerges in the Scriptural Texts which are presented to us at the liturgy. The virtue of humility is one which is held in high esteem within the books of the Bible for it is the opposite of the vice of pride. It was pride which led to mankind's downfall in the garden as recorded in the Book of Genesis. Adam and Eve freely decided that their desire was more important than the fulfillment of the Lord's command. Their arrogant choice has tainted humanity ever since with our propensity to foster this vice rather than to embrace humility.

When we reflect upon humility our thoughts lead us to our Lord and God, Jesus Christ. The Apostle Paul's Letter to the Church in Philippi reminds us of Jesus' embrace of humility: *"Christ Jesus, though He was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God something to be grasped. Rather He emptied Himself, taking the form of a slave, coming in human likeness; and found human in appearance, He humbled Himself, becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross."* (2:6-8) We see how God embraces humility and sees it as the way to holiness. Pride was introduced to the world by the devil whereas humility was demonstrated in Jesus Christ.

Humility calls for the dying of oneself so that the life of Christ may appear and be shown in the world through the lives of the saints. The saints are an example to us of those who humbled themselves and are now exalted to the glory of heaven. We venerate the saints and seek their intercession so that we too may enjoy the glory of heaven. Next Sunday our Holy Father, Pope Leo XIV will canonize Blessed Carlo Acutis and Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassatti at Saint Peter's in Rome. These two young Catholic laymen serve as models of Christian virtue and an inspiration in our quest for holiness. We will hear more about these two new saints at next Sunday's Holy Mass.

Tomorrow's observance of Labor Day will commence a resumption of activities which were on hiatus during the summer months. As we begin again the work which awaits us after the holiday let us pray that the Lord will give us the strength needed to perform our tasks with humility in imitation of the saints.

GLORY TO JESUS CHRIST-GLORY FOREVER!

Father Zig

ST. ROSALIA, VIRGIN
September 4 – Patroness of Palermo

ST. ROSALIA, daughter of Sinibald, Lord of Roses and Quisquina, was a descendant of the great Charlemagne. She was born at Palermo in Sicily. In her youth, her heart turned from earthly vanities to God. She left her home and took up her abode in a cave, on the walls of which she wrote these words: "I, Rosalia, daughter of Sinibald, Lord of Roses, and Quisquina, have taken the resolution to live in this cave for the love of my Lord, Jesus Christ." She remained there entirely hidden from the world.

Rosalia practiced great mortifications and lived in constant communion with God. Afterward she transferred her abode to Mount Pellegrino, about three miles from Palermo, in order to triumph entirely over the instincts of flesh and blood, in sight of her paternal home. She is said to have appeared after death and to have revealed that she spent several years in a little excavation near the grotto. She died alone, in 1160, ending her strange and wonderful life unknown to the world. Her body was discovered in 1625, during the pontificate of Pope Urban VIII.



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

Saint Cecilia Parish

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