

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, November 17, Saint Elizabeth of Hungary, Religious

6:30 am — Toni Carlotti req. by the McDonnell Family

8:00 am — Elizabeth Grzywaczewski req. by her husband, Jan

Tuesday, November 18, The Dedication of the Basilicas of Saints Peter and Paul, Apostles; St. Rose Philippine Duchesne

6:30 am — Janina & Henryk Grzywaczewski req. by Jan & Teresa

8:00 am — Loretta Benna req. by Sophie Boylan

Wednesday, November 19, Weekday

6:30 am — For the Holy Souls in Purgatory req. by Agnes Maye

8:00 am — Larry Gatzke and Dorothy Nielsen req. by Family

Thursday, November 20, Weekday

6:30 am — Robert Marmara req. by Elizabeth Bonsiewich

8:00 am — Bernard & Joan McDonnell req. by McDonnell Family

Friday, November 21, The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

6:30 am — Valerie Gagnon req. by Fr. Zig & Fr. Matt

8:00 am — Hercilia de Gomez req. by daughter, Ana

Saturday, November 22, Saint Cecilia, Virgin and Martyr

8:00 am — Roberta Majewski req. by Berdin-Baricuatro Family

Sunday, November 23, Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

4:00 pm — Russell Colditz req. by his wife, Ana

Rita Funicelli req. by her Children

Johannes Kowalski req. by Rousseau Family

8:00 am — Robert & Rena Benjamin req. by Bob & Tom Benjamin

9:15 am — Claudia Fontanella req. by the Luttenberger Family

Maryann Narsavage req. by the Ortenzi Family

10:45 am - Rose Elias req. by Donald Elias & Family

Mario Zambrano req. by Family

12:15 pm — Roberta Willard req. by cousin, Eleanor Agan

Anna Van Gelder req. by Marilyn & Joyce

ST. CECILIA CHURCH COLLECTION GOALS**Week Ending : November 9, 2025**

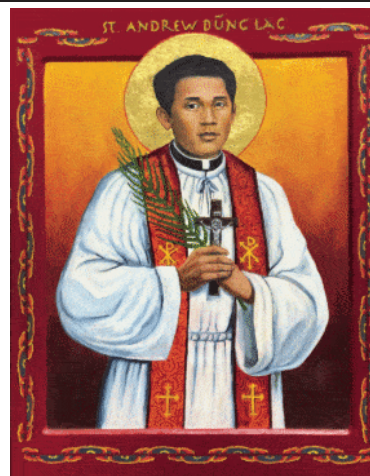
Collection—Checks & Cash	\$ 9,031.00
WeShare Electronic Giving	\$ 4,713.20
Total Weekly Collection	\$ 13,744.20

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

Weekly Collection Surplus (Deficit)	\$ (569.53)
Year To Date Surplus (Deficit)	\$ 7,783.42



*The Sanctuary Candle burning on our altar
is in loving memory of
Hercilia de Gomez
Requested by loving daughter, Ana*

**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 Cragin, Bob Libak, Mary Lou Baumiller, Patricia Shea, Jose Castillo, Joseph Bardi, Gloria Benson, William Serafin, Eleanor Sala, Cecilia Pane, Dennis McCoach.



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

ADULT FAITH FORMATION – Our parish offers two opportunities during the week for adults to gather to enrich their faith. On Monday evenings at 7:30 a video series on the Catechism of the Catholic Church takes place led by Chuck Malaniak. On Tuesday mornings at 9:30 a Scripture class on the Letters of Saint John and the Book of Revelation takes place led by Father Matt. Both gatherings are in Hayes Hall and are open to all adults. Please join us to increase your knowledge of the faith we share in Christ!

ADVENT RETREAT – Mark your calendar for our parish ADVENT RETREAT which will take place on Saturday, December 6th with Monsignor Raymond Kupke, Professor of Church History at Immaculate Conception Seminary-Seton Hall University. The morning event begins with Holy Mass at 8 o'clock followed by a hot breakfast in Hayes Hall. The retreat is divided into two sessions separated by a "coffee break." The retreat concludes at 11:30 a.m. The registration fee is \$25, payable to St. Cecilia Church. The deadline for registration is Tuesday morning, December 2nd. You may register by contacting the parish office.

ADVENT TREE – Our annual ADVENT TREE PROJECT will commence on Sunday, November 30th, the First Sunday of Advent. The tree will contain tags for gifts which will be distributed to the needy in time for Christmas. All parishioners are invited to take a tag from the tree and bring your gift to the church on Sunday, December 14th. Your generosity will bring Christmas cheer to someone in need. May God bless you!

FATIMA STATUE – The pilgrim statue of Our Lady of Fatima is available for one week stay in a parishioner's home, from Sunday to Sunday at the 10:45 a.m. Mass. A sign-up for this purpose is located at the altar of the Blessed Virgin Mary. In taking the image of Mary into your home, you are committed to praying the Holy Rosary every day for the cause of peace. For further information regarding this project of the Knights of Columbus please see Father Zig, Father Matt or Sister Chiara Marie.

FINANCIAL REPORT – A financial report of our parish will be printed and included in the Sunday bulletin on November 30th.

WINTER POLICY - In the event of inclement weather and Divine Mercy Academy is closed, the parish office will be closed and the church will be open ONLY for the liturgical service scheduled. Also, all evening events will be cancelled.

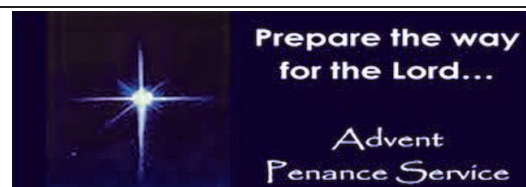
BEWARE OF SCAMS – Be on the alert of scams which say they are from me. THEY ARE NOT!!! Please call me at the office (973.627.0313x12) if you have **doubt** about a text, email, etc, which is supposedly from me asking for money, gift cards, favors, etc. PLEASE DO NOT BE FOOLED!!!
Fr. Zig

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 (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.

THANKSGIVING DAY – Holy Mass on Thanksgiving Day, November 27th will be celebrated at 9 o'clock in the morning. This is the only Mass which is scheduled for this day. Please join us in thanksgiving to God for the blessings He has bestowed upon us.

NO MASSES, NO CONFESSIONS – On Saturday, November 22nd the regular vigil Masses and confessions WILL NOT TAKE PLACE! On that Saturday afternoon the only Mass to be celebrated will be at 4 o'clock! No confessions on Saturday, November 22nd! – Father Zig

REMEMBERING THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED – The month of November is dedicated to the souls of the faithful departed. During this time the All Souls envelopes with the names of the departed will rest on the altar so that they will be remembered during the Holy Sacrifice. Also, the Book of the Dead will be positioned on the altar of Saint Joseph in which you may inscribe the names of departed loved ones.



ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE – Eight priests will be present to celebrate with us the sacrament of penance on Monday evening, December 15th at 7 o'clock. Please mark this date in your calendar so that you may prepare your soul to welcome the Nativity feast with a pure heart.

Monday, November 17

7:00 pm—Holy Hour (Church)

7:30 pm—Bible Study (Hayes Hall)

Tuesday, November 18

9:30 am—Bible Study (Hayes Hall)

12:00 am—Seniors Meeting (Hayes Hall)

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

Wednesday, November 19

8:30 am—Soup Kitchen (Hayes Hall)

7:00 pm—Choir Practice (Church)

Thursday, November 20

8:30 am—Soup Kitchen (Hayes Hall)

Friday, November 21

7:00 pm—Catacombs (Hayes Hall)

Saturday, November 22

4:00 pm—150th Anniversary of St. Cecilia Church Mass & Celebration (Church & Off-Site)

Sunday, November 23

9:15 am—Children's Liturgy (Hayes Hall)

8:00 pm—LTP (Hayes Hall)

5TH SUNDAY ROSARY – The “5th Sunday of the Month Rosary” will take place on Sunday, November 30th at 3 o'clock in the afternoon at Sacred Heart of Jesus Church on East Main Street. During this 30-minute gathering the Holy Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet will be prayed. All are welcome to attend this prayer service which is sponsored by the Knights of Columbus Council 3359.

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

Divine Mercy Academy News

IF YOU ATTEND FRIDAY MORNING MASS – As a security measure the doors of the church will be locked for Friday morning Mass at 7:50 am. If you attend Mass on Friday morning, you must be in the building by that time. This is a security measure for our school children. – Fr. Zig

Join us for a joyful morning filled with festive fun, hot cocoa, holiday music, and a special visit from Santa himself. Whether you're walking, running, or jingling all the way, it's a great way to support Divine Mercy Academy and celebrate the season!

When: Saturday, December 6th at 9am

Where: Peterson Memorial Field, Rockaway Township

Cost: Early registration fee \$30 / Onsite registration \$35. Register at: <https://my.raceresult.com/352188/>

As we look forward to the success of our first annual 5K, we are seeking sponsors who share our commitment to education, community engagement, and wellness. Your support would be instrumental in making this event a memorable one, and we would be thrilled to have your business partner with us to help raise funds that will directly benefit our students and the programs we offer. Please contact Lbretzger@dmrockaway.com for more information!

SHOPPING GIFT CARDS – The sale of the shopping cards from SHOPRITE and other stores is conducted every Saturday and Sunday for the convenience of our parishioners. Your purchase of the cards assists our parish school, an important part of Saint Cecilia Parish. Please know that the cards may also be purchased at the parish office during the week. I would like to personally thank you for supporting this program! – Father Zig

Divine Mercy Academy's Christmas Wreath Fundraiser is underway! You can order online at <https://my.evergreenindustries.com/>

Customer Code: DIVINE. Orders will be shipped directly to you. \$10 will be donated to Divine Mercy Academy for each item ordered. Orders must be placed 12/3. Thank you for your support!

PARISH COAT DRIVE: The Men's Society would like to thank all those who donated to the parish coat drive held November 1st and 2nd. Over 300 coats were donated most of which were in good shape and were distributed to the Market Street Mission in Morristown and to Father English Center in Paterson. Thank you for your generosity.

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~

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!

Men's Retreat: "The Sacred Journey—Transitions & Transformation"

Join *Called-To-Courage* for a men's retreat from **January 9-11, 2026** at the **Sacred Heart Center**, 20 Old Swartswood Road, Newton, NJ.

Come spend a peaceful weekend in a beautiful natural setting surrounded by trees and greenery. The retreat includes inspiring talks, group conversations, prayer, Mass, and more. **Cost:** \$235 (covers retreat, meals, and lodging) **Registration deadline:** December 18, 2025. Registration forms are in the church vestibule. Please send it to the address listed. For questions, contact **Dick Freiberger** at 973-985-8858 or rnfrei@gmail.com.

2025 SIMBANG GABI – The 1st night of the traditional novena of Filipino Masses before Christmas will be celebrated at Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish, Rockaway, on December 15 at 7:00 p.m. Rev. Fr. Jun Visara will be the principal celebrant. Fellowship and Filipino refreshments will follow immediately after the Mass.

The traditional SIMBANG GABI is sponsored by the Diocesan Commission for Catholic Filipino Ministries (DCCFM) of the Diocese of Paterson. For more information or if you wish to help, please contact Elmer at (973)664-1949. Maraming salamat po.

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.

2025 Diocesan Ministries Appeal
"Three Counties, One Family of Faith"

Each year, Catholic Charities in the Diocese of Paterson serves tens of thousands of people who are in need of critical services. The Diocesan Ministries Appeal helps to ensure that these programs offered by Catholic Charities continue to welcome and serve all who seek help. Your gift is so important to this work. Share a message of gratitude this Thanksgiving by helping those in need. May God bless you for your support!

Please make a donation to the 2025 Diocesan Ministries Appeal today - visit www.2025appeal.org to make a gift today.

OCIA INQUIRY PERIOD ENDING

The OCIA, the first stage for adults' preparation for sacraments at Easter Vigil, the INQUIRY PERIOD is ending today. The CATECHUMENATE, the religious formation phase begins with Advent. There is still time to join a CONFIRMATION preparation if you have a working knowledge of the Catholic faith. If your background is weak, you can begin now and continue into next year. Today's session: **About the Catechumenate** Contact Sister Diane at sdmoughan@gmail.com. **November 23 - No OCIA Meeting**

November 30 - At the beginning of the 10:45 Mass, adults preparing to receive the Sacraments of Initiation at the Easter Vigil will be received as "Catechumens" in the **RITE OF ENTRANCE INTO THE CATECHUMENATE**. Baptized adults completing their sacraments of initiation with the Sacrament of Confirmation at the Easter Vigil are received as "Candidates" in the **RITE OF WELCOMING OF CANDIDATES**

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!

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,

Today is the 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time as we gather to celebrate the Eucharist on the Lord's Day. We are nearing the conclusion of the 2025 Liturgical Year and as in the tradition of the Western Church our thoughts are brought to the "end times." The theology which is called "eschatology" deals with the subjects such as: the end of time, the Lord's Second Coming and our own personal death. Every year the gathered faithful hear readings at the Holy Mass from the Sacred Scriptures which invite us to reflect upon this theme. This theme finds its culmination in the Feast of Christ the King, the Last Sunday of the liturgical year which we will observe next Sunday.

The Lord's Second Coming is addressed by Jesus in today's Gospel pericope who assures His listeners that He will indeed return. However, prior to this great and glorious day there will be persecution of the faithful. Disciples will suffer because of their affiliation with the Lord. The day of the Lord's coming is unknown, but it will be a day of affliction for evil doers and of salvation for the just.

As the "Day of the Lord" is unknown it behooves the followers of Jesus to conduct themselves in a proper manner. In today's epistle we read from a portion of the Apostle Paul's correspondence to the Thessalonians. The Apostles reminds us that until that day we should live our lives with integrity and responsibility.

Today the Vietnamese Community of our parish will celebrate the Feast of Saint Andrew Dung Lac and His Companions, Martyrs of Vietnam. This feast is observed on November 24th but due to the 150th Anniversary celebrations of our parish next week this event is scheduled for today.

We are in the midst of our Novena to Saint Cecilia as we prepare for her feast day, and ours on Saturday. Next Sunday we conclude the 2025 Liturgical Year with the Feast of Our Lord Jesus Christ the King. Our American observance of Thanksgiving will also take place next week. There's a lot happening in these days!

GLORY TO JESUS CHRIST-GLORY FOREVER!

Father Zig

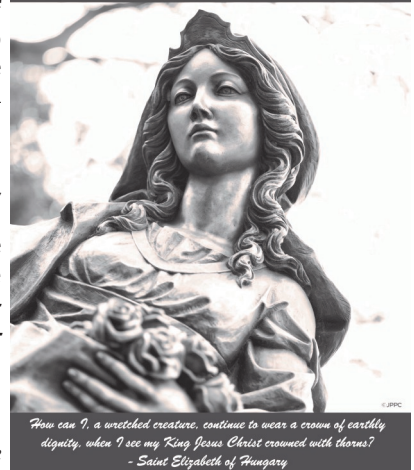
ST. ELIZABETH OF HUNGARY, Religious
November 17

St. Elizabeth was born in Hungary in 1207, the daughter of Alexander II, King of Hungary. At the age of four she was sent for her education to the court of the Landgrave of Thuringia, to whose infant son she was betrothed. As she grew in age, her piety also increased by leaps and bounds. In 1221, she married Louis of Thuringia and in spite of her position at court began to lead an austere simple life, practiced penance, and devoted herself to works of charity.

Her husband was himself much inclined to religion and highly esteemed her virtue, encouraging her in her exemplary life. They had three children when tragedy struck—Louis was killed while fighting with the Crusaders. After his death, Elizabeth left the court, made arrangements for the care of her children, and in 1228 renounced the world, becoming a tertiary of St. Francis. She built the Franciscan hospital at Marburg and devoted herself to the care of the sick until her death at the age of twenty-four in 1231. She was canonized in 1235 by Pope Gregory IX.

PRAYER God, You taught St. Elizabeth to recognize and serve Christ in the poor. Grant, through her intercession, that we may always lovingly serve the needy and the oppressed. Amen.

Saint Elizabeth of Hungary



How can I, a wretched creature, continue to wear a crown of earthly dignity, when I see my King Jesus Christ crowned with thorns?
- Saint Elizabeth of Hungary

Saint Cecilia Parish

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