



Church of Saint Cecilia

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Weekly Masses:
Saturday 4:30 & Sunday 8:15 & 10:00
Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday 3:45

Holy Week Schedule

Palm Sunday, April 9th

11:15am Holy Thursday Rehearsal
11:15am Environment

Wednesday, April 12th

3:30pm-5:00pm Confessions

Holy Thursday, April 13th

7:00pm Mass of the Lord's Supper

Good Friday, April 14th

3:00pm Taize Prayer
6:15pm Good Friday Rehearsal
7:00pm Service of the Passion and
Death of Christ

Holy Saturday, April 15th

9:00am Environment
11:00am Vigil Rehearsal-Minister/
Lector
12:30pm Instrumental Rehearsal
8:00pm Easter Vigil (Reception fol-
lows)
Note—No confessions today

Easter Sunday, April 16th

8:15am & 10:00am Mass



Clay tile by an Armenian artist

PARISH STAFF

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The Church of Saint Cecilia

...Christ Jesus, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness, and being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death – even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

The Hymn to Christ in Philippians Chapter 2, verses 6 – 11, is one of the earliest, and possibly the earliest, statement of the divinity of Christ in the entire New Testament. Although the authorship of the hymn (in fact, whether it is a “hymn”) is disputed, most scholars are confident that the Apostle Paul authored the book of Philippians. The Hymn is one of the Mass readings for Palm Sunday. Many scholars believe that the author of the Hymn (whether Paul or an earlier oral tradition) may have intended a “pre-existence” Christology, a “second Adam” Christology, or both. Neither Christology questions the divinity of Jesus, but they have different views on when the divinity occurred. Under a “pre-existence” Christology, Christ had full equality with God the Father from all eternity. Under a “second Adam” Christology, the earthly Jesus did not have full equality with God the Father until after the Resurrection and Ascension, but nevertheless refused to “grasp” at full equality. The two Christologies depend, to a great extent, on the interpretation of the Greek word “harpagmon” (to grasp or hold). This word does not occur anywhere else in the New Testament, and does not occur in the Septuagint (the Greek translation of the Old Testament that would have been familiar to Paul’s listeners). It may be that Paul coined the word in order to allow two different symbolic meanings. The first meaning, *res rapienda*, is that Christ did not initially have full equality with God, but refused to try to grab it. The second meaning, *res rapta*, is that Christ always had full equality with God, and had no need to try to grab it. These very academic disputes are probably not the most important aspect of the Hymn, however. The most important contribution of the Hymn lies in the fact that it was probably composed around 50 – 60 years after Christ’s birth, and therefore likely predates the Gospels of Matthew, Luke, and John by twenty to thirty years. If the Hymn was originally an oral tradition, it may be even earlier. We do not possess any written material from a time any closer to the Resurrection. Recent “liberal” scholarship, such as that of the Jesus Seminar, places significant weight on the so-called “missing” gospels, such as the Gospel of Thomas, which were discovered at Nag Hammadi in Egypt in 1945. However, most scholars think that these other gospels date from the second century or later. Under the principle that earlier material is less likely to have undergone modification, the Hymn to Christ is extremely important for both a catholic exegesis and faith. Although the questions of Christ’s divinity and humanity were not clearly developed by the Church until the Councils of Nicaea, Constantinople, Ephesus, and Chalcedon, in the fourth and fifth centuries, the Hymn to Christ is a vital, early statement of both his humanity and divinity. It also is extremely important as a counterweight to historically inaccurate materials such as Dan Brown’s *Da Vinci Code*. I hope that this short description of the Hymn will help us appreciate it more, as we hear it read on Palm Sunday.

Nelson Capes, St. Cecilia parishioner

Special Bulletin Deadline Tuesday, April 11th at 9:00am. Email info. to bulletin@stceciliasp.org.

If you have an intention you wish prayed for, please call Marge Virnig at 651.644.4502 ext. 12.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Church Cleaning

Helping hands are needed to clean the church for our Holy Week services and Easter Celebration. Please join us on Monday, April 10th at 6:00pm. Supplies are provided.

Outreach Drives –Final Weekend

Confirmation Service Projects:

Nick Linn and Charlie Rogers will be in the link this weekend collecting new/used hockey equipment and/or funds for DynoMights, a hockey program for inter-city youth. Checks payable to St. Cecilia with a notation of “DynoMights” are appreciated.

Elise Carroll’s book drive for Reach Out and Read also wraps up this weekend. Thank you for your donations.

Socks and more...

Thank you for your donations to Women’s Advocates. Our 5th graders will be assembling hygiene care packages for children arriving at the shelter.

Open Forum

How are we priestly people? What is the priestly role? Fr. Michael Joncas, Tom Fisch (St. Paul Seminary professor), and Jim Moudry will lead the Council of the Baptized Open Forum exploring what it means for Catholics to be priestly people, and the priestly role in the celebration of the Eucharist. Gather on Tuesday, April 11th from 7:00-8:00pm at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, 700 Snelling Avenue South, St. Paul.

Marriage Enrichment

The Marriage Enrichment group meets monthly on the second Monday. Join us on April 10th at 7:00pm for the topic “Put a positive spin on marriage.” The purpose of the group is to encourage and enrich one another by our presence and by sharing the wisdom gained from our experience as married persons. Join us!

FAITH FORMATION

"The Spirituality of Parenting" at WCW. Barb Keffer will continue with part 2 of her presentation titled, "The Spirituality of Parenting" on April 19th. She will focus on how God is calling our families to continued growth in love and will help us name some of the important practices that nurture our spirituality. Potluck @ 5:30pm, presentation @ 6:15pm. All are welcome!

Domestic Violence Awareness

Presentation at WCW

Nikki Beasley from Women's Advocates will be with our WCW adult group on Wednesday, April 26th to cover important topics related to domestic violence. She will explain to us what dating violence is, help us to identify warning signs and consequences, and give us tips on prevention. Our hope is to give parents some tools to educate our sons and daughters about issues of domestic violence. Potluck @ 5:30pm, presentation to follow at 6:15pm.

Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser

On Sunday, April 23rd our Youth Group will host a pancake breakfast fundraiser to help cover the cost of their mission trip to Red Lake Reservation this summer. Last year our parishioners' support allowed us to not only cover the cost for our teens to attend the mission trip, but we also gave a generous donation to the *Pancake* school there. We look forward to another successful fundraiser! Thank you in advance for your support!



Youth Group News

Join us for these upcoming events :

Saturday, April 22nd

Overnight at St. C's followed by Sunday, April 23rd, Pancake breakfast fundraiser for Red Lake

Wednesday, May 10th

Large Group final session and celebration! with Confirmation Presentations

Monday, July 10th-Friday, July 15th, trip to Red Lake.

Parish Calendar

Mon	6:00	Church Cleaning
	7:00	Marriage Enrichment
Tue	7:00	Choir
Wed	10:00	Staff Mtg.
	10:30	Nursing Home Service

Mark your calendar for the 2nd Annual St. Cecilia Parish Assembly

There are two dates to choose from:

Sunday, June 11 from 11:15 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. OR

Wednesday, June 14 from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.

All are Welcome

You are invited to participate in St. Cecilia's Parish Assembly to reflect on our parish mission, listen to one another's experience of faith as members of this community, and discuss our parish's gifts and needs.

What is the goal of this year's Parish Assembly?

The goal of this year's Parish Assembly is two-fold:

- *To reflect on our parish mission statement and identify areas where we most need to grow, and*
- *To reflect on the youth of our parish (youth being defined broadly—from children and teenagers to young adults) and how St. Cecilia can best engage them in parish life.*

Who should participate?

All are welcome. This is a chance for young and old, new and long-standing parishioners, to engage in meaningful dialogue about our common experience at St. C's. We would like broad representation from the St. C's community; we want to hear your needs and concerns, insights and wisdom. *We especially want to include teenagers and young adults in our parish.* Child care will be available for those who need it. Please mark your calendar and plan to attend on either June 11 or 14. So that we can plan space and refreshments, an opportunity to RSVP will be forthcoming by email.

What will happen at the Parish Assembly?

The Parish Assembly will focus on conversation, collaboration and community-building. While there will be brief introductions and a context set, most of the assembly will be structured conversations in small groups, allowing people to speak, listen to, and connect with fellow parishioners on the issues and experiences that matter to them most at St. C's.

Is there anything you can do to prepare for the Parish Assembly?

One thing you can do is to complete the survey that was emailed to all parishioners. Your input will help in the planning of the Parish Assembly. In addition, you can have discussions at home with your own young family members and friends about engagement in a church community and its mission. As a starting point, dialogue about the questions that are posed in the survey.

Who is planning the Parish Assembly?

St. C's Parish Assembly is being planned by our Parish Community Council (PCC), a group who provides broad oversight and gives general direction to parish activities. The PCC does its work in the spirit of servant leadership and in collaboration with our pastor. The PCC is following the model of synod when planning the Parish Assembly --which is what Pope Francis calls for in the Catholic Church. Pope Francis writes: "A synodal church is a listening church, aware that listening is more than hearing. It is a reciprocal listening in which each one has something to learn." Being a synodal church means walking together, listening, learning and sharing our mission.

Parish Email. We often use electronic mail as our way of keeping parishioners informed of upcoming events taking place at St. Cecilia's. If you are not receiving our emails and would like to, please call the parish office.

Holy Week Schedule

Please refer to the bulletin cover for our Holy Week schedule. Thank you.

Hymn Numbers: 498 (4:30/8:15), 33, 195, 475 (4:30/8:15), 785, 510