



Church of Saint Cecilia

2357 Bayless Place • Saint Paul, MN 55114
651.644.4502
Fax 651.647.1445 • www.stceciliaspm.org

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



WELCOME

To join the parish, please call the office at 651.644.4502, or talk to one of the hospitality ministers who greets you.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Thursday
9:00am to 4:00pm

You are God's temple and God's Spirit dwells in you.

1 Corinthians 15:30

PARISH STAFF

John M. Hofstede

Pastor
651.644.4502 x 14
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Marge Virnig

Pastoral Associate
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Music Coordinator/Choir Director
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Theresa O'Toole

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Barb Falardeau

Communications Coordinator
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Trustees

Dick McCarthy

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Mary Ellen Ryan

651.746.9227

The Church of Saint Cecilia

Pastor in absentia

I'm sorry for the delay in reporting, but this disability experience is new to me and I'm trying to read signs of progress myself. As with our universal salvation story, it all began with a fall. On the morning of the recent Martin Luther King day (January 20), I was out on the slopes (driveway) clearing the latest dusting with my trusty snow scoop. I soon found myself on the ground scrambling to get up, since my knees kept buckling. I finally flipped the scoop over and managed to pry myself up from the pavement and made my way slowly into the house. Once inside, I fell a few more times, but found I could get around with the help of a cane I happened to have on hand. I emailed the orthopedic doctor who had been tending my arthritic knees. He followed up with a few recommendations on how to manage the situation until I could check up with him at the earliest available time the following week. Somehow, by avoiding stairs and wearing a knee brace I had been prescribed earlier, I managed to get around the house and even came for two of the liturgies that intervening weekend with the help of family, friends and folks at St. Cecilia.

Alas, when I saw the doctor and he examined me and viewed x-rays, he put my leg in a leg stabilizer and arranged for pre-op visits with my primary doctor, a surgeon and an MRI all on the next day, followed by surgery the morning after that. The quadriceps tendon had been severed from my left knee and would need to be reattached. The right knee, though damaged was still functional and would need to be strengthened with therapy. I'm grateful for the swift movement from diagnosis to surgery that my orthopedic doctor set in motion.

The upshot of this, is that the recovery and rehabilitation time-line is rather long and slow. I need to be in a leg brace that begins above the foot and runs up the entire leg. The first month or so, the knee needs to be in a locked position, and, I understand, the lock at the knee will be relaxed gradually in incremental degrees to slowly increase flexibility. The original plan was to be on crutches and use a walker. I knew I would not be able to navigate in my little house with that arrangement and would need to move into a transitional care unit. Thus, I spent the following week at Catholic Eldercare's relatively new Transitional Care facility in N.E. Minneapolis and enjoyed a fine therapy program there.

That building sits on the site of what was formerly the parish rectory and adjoining classroom building for my home parish of St. Anthony of Padua. When the rectory was torn down and the former classrooms were gutted that had been converted in an earlier renovation to a therapy and day program center for Eldercare, the new Transitional Care Center took shape. Some of the new building shared the footprint of the former classrooms and gym. I determined that the patient room I was assigned was basically within my seventh grade classroom. During my recent stay, I would wake up with the same view I last saw when roused from my daydreams as a twelve year old. Very strange.

After that week, I returned home with some home nurse assistance to manage the brace as well as physical therapy. I saw my surgeon last week for the initial follow-up and healing seems to be on course. I can now ambulate freely with the cane and even manage, carefully, the stairs to my basement to do laundry, etc. I have been out of the house, briefly for medical appointments and been assisted with a few errands. Everything now is being done in slow motion: tending the brace periodically, getting dressed, getting in and out of a car, etc. I'm moving around the house fairly easily, but I find I do not yet have a lot of stamina to be on my feet or to travel very long or far.

The lack of stamina and the kind of winter conditions that got me into trouble in the first place make how and when I'll be able to return to a full schedule hard to determine in advance. I'm grateful to all my priest colleagues whom Marge Virnig has been able to schedule to fill in for the weekend and funeral liturgies. Marge has once again proved

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Stewardship-Fiscal Year July 1, 2019-June 30, 2020

Contributions Update:

December's Budgeted Revenue	\$24,264.00
Amount Received To Date	\$32,667.38
Remaining to Achieve Budget	\$(8,403.38)

Financial Information ending

December 31:

Anticipated Collections	\$195,740
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Actual Collections	\$185,943
Major Gifts	\$44,245
Building Fund Contributions	<u>\$12,840</u>
Total Income	\$243,028

Budgeted Expenses	\$198,750
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Actual Expenses	\$181,301
Major Repairs	\$8,499
Principal Payments on Debt	<u>\$7,682</u>
Total Expenditures	\$197,482

Revenue Over Expenses	\$45,546
Debt Outstanding	\$62,832

Alms Box Balance as of Feb 16	\$1,554.21
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Saturday, February 29, 4:30 pm

Cross:

Book: Leo S.

Candle:

Lectors: David P./Gaida Q.

Host: Alice S.

Cup: Dick M./Teri D.

Hospitality: Kathy M.

Sacristan: Marge V.

Sunday, March 1, 8:15 am

Book: Julie B.

Lectors: Steve C./Mary Pat R.

Host: Brad C.

Cup: Brent D./Marilee G.

Sacristan: Pat K.

Sunday, March 1, 10:00 am

Cross: Larry C.

Book: Jack S.

Candle: Aaron S./

Lector: Evelyn P./Chris C.

Host: Dick B.

Cup: Claudia B./Ken S.

Cup: Rosie F./Bill J.

Hospitality: Kathy D.

Sacristan: Mary Pat Z.

masterful in finding helpers to fill in the gaps. I'm grateful, too, for all the ways the parish staff and parishioners who help in the various ministries have been able to keep things moving.

My return will be gradual in the coming weeks. We have the important seasons of Lent and Easter ahead of us, as well as the task of screening candidates for the Parish Operations position we hope to fill. Thanks for all your support and prayers!

John Hofstede

COMMUNITY NEWS



Catholic Services Appeal Commitment Weekend
Stop by the link this weekend to complete a paper pledge form in support of the Catholic Services Appeal Foundation. Thank you.

Ash Wednesday

Our Ash Wednesday schedule, February 26th, is as follows:

12:05pm Service
5:45pm Soup Supper
6:30pm Service

March 1st Liturgy—Archbishop Hebda Presiding

Next Sunday, March 1st, Archbishop Hebda will be presiding at our 10:00am liturgy.

March Food Drive

March is Minnesota Food Share month, bringing together various community organizations, businesses and faith communities to help stock nearly 300 food shelves statewide. Our food drive is set for March 14th & 15th, but we will be collecting nonperishable food, personal care items and monetary donations all month long. Watch for more information on the food drive. Thank you for your continuing support.

Girl Scouts Cookie Sale

Next Weekend

Girl scouts from our parish will be in the lower link next weekend selling cookies. Thank you for your support!

Save the Date - 'Come Join Us'

Save the date and 'Come Join us' for our annual parish dinner and silent auction on Sunday, April 26th from 11:00am-2:00pm. Do you have travel plans in the coming weeks? Please consider picking up a unique souvenir for our Silent Auction! Donations may be brought to the parish office. Thank you!

Lenten Resources

Art Zannoni has published two Lenten resources. The one is entitled "*Journey Through Lent*," and the other "*Journey Through the Triduum*." They are available at www.pastoralcenter.com. One resource reflects on the Sacred Scripture readings assigned for the Sundays of Lent, the other on the assigned readings for Holy Thursday, Good Friday, the Easter Vigil, and Easter day.

FAITH FORMATION

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS) News

In the month of February the focus will be on Jesus' parables. In the month of March the students will learn about the Cenacle, Psalm 23, and the City of Jerusalem.

February/March Schedule

Feb 23rd - class, bury Alleluias
March 1st - class
March 8th - class
March 15th - class
March 22nd - Family weekend, spring break
March 29th - class

Whole Community Wednesday

On Wednesday, March 4th we will host a Catechesis of the Good Shepherd session for adults. This method of faith formation is based off of the belief that children are already in relationship with God and the role of parents and catechists is to support that relationship. Come and experience the meditative and transformative quality of CGS this Lenten season.

2/26 - Ash Wednesday, no faith formation meeting

3/4 - CGS for Adults, teen meeting

3/11 - No WCW, spring break

3/18 - Bonus class for 6th-8th graders and First Eucharist prep 6:00-7:30, no potluck

Potluck at 5:30pm, meetings to follow at 6:30pm. All are welcome!

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Habitat Work Camp

Tres Iglesias is seeking volunteers for a Habitat For Humanity work camp on Friday March 6th and Saturday March 7th, 2020. Tres Iglesias is a combined project with the Church of St. Frances Cabrini and Prospect Park United Methodist and the Church of St. Cecilia. If you would like to volunteer please register at <http://www.cabrinimn.org/habitat-signup>. The day will start at 8:30am and end at 4:00pm. The project is indoors at 666 Dale St N, St Paul, MN 55103. Lunch and snacks will be provided so no need to bring anything except water. The Project is a Habitat buy-back rehab. It is heated and has running water and bathrooms. For more information call Ken Scherber at 651.341.5602.

OUT AND ABOUT

Chamber Choir College of St. Benedict/ St. John's University in concert Sunday, March 8th-3:00pm at St. Pascal Baylon Church. Admission is free (free will donation welcome to help defray costs).

PARISH CALENDAR

Sun		Catholic Services Appeal
Tue	7:00	Choir
Wed		Ash Wednesday
	10:30	Nursing Home Service
	12:05	Service
	5:45	Soup Supper
	6:30	Service
Sat	9:00	Reconciliation Retreat
		Girl Scout Cookie Sale
Sun		First Euch Welcome
		First Sunday of Lent
		First Euch Welcome
		Girl Scout Cookie Sale
	10:00	Archbishop Hebda

Prayer Ministry: If you have an intention you wish prayed for, please call Sheila Boos at 612.810.5035 or complete the form on our website (Community/Prayer Ministry tab).

Bulletin Deadline: Wednesday at 9:00 a.m. Email info to bulletin@stceciliasp.org.

Hymn Numbers:
948, 271, 75, 828, 806, 759