



# Church of Saint Cecilia

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



The Visitation

“Magnificat” from Liturgy of the Hours for Women

## CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve, Monday, December 24th  
4:00pm Carols, 4:30pm Mass

Christmas Day, Tuesday, December 25th  
10:00am Mass

New Year's Day, Tuesday, January 1st  
10:00am Mass

Fourth Sunday of Advent, Year C

A MEETING IN A HILLSIDE HOME

A meeting in a hillside home,  
Two women face-to-face:  
The ages turning on the hinge  
Disclosed in their embrace.

Elizabeth, now great with child  
In barrenness begun,  
Receives her younger relative  
Who bears her own dear Son.

The great Forerunner leaps for joy,  
As though to start his race;  
Elizabeth cries out with love:  
“Hail, Mary, full of grace!”

“O who am I that on my life  
Such favor be outpoured:  
My home be graced by Grace itself –  
This mother and my Lord?”

“How blest are they who trust in God,  
Whose hope cannot be killed,  
Whose faith, unshaken, still declares:  
‘God’s word will be fulfilled!’”

Give us, O God of Advent joy,  
The same delights as they:  
The faith to see, the grace to dance,  
The strength to walk your way.

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## The Church of Saint Cecilia

### Reflection for the Fourth Sunday of Advent By Stephanie Klenk

Waiting. Waiting and not knowing when something is going to happen is a test of faith. The Advent season has always been a time for me where waiting is emphasized and along with it, patience. As I have aged, the exact nature of what I was expecting has changed, but not the waiting. The anticipation of Christmas, the delay of the shortest night of the year and more daylight to come, and finally waiting for the end of the year to be done, to start fresh.

However, isn't it easy to keep faith when we have the end of the story? We know that our hopes for a King and savior will happen and we celebrate that fulfilled hope every year. I often think about what it would have been like to live when prophets like Micah in the first reading, announce that a king is coming, in quite a bit of detail, but not WHEN. To have such hope and the faith to wait years, decades, and centuries is a true test of faith. And then, when the thing you have been waiting for does happen, to celebrate and believe your faith has been realized. You were not duped and had not waited in vain.

My spouse, Richie, and I are experiencing a wait. W-a-i-t-i-n-g. We are in the process of adoption and are "approved" to be placed with a child since summer of 2017. Our hope is out there for the world to see (on Facebook) and many people are helping us in our effort. Placement of a child and adoption still has not happened for us, although it has come close, twice, to having our dream realized. Our family of two longs to be made three. Much advice has been given about how situations will feel right and that this will happen for us. Patience. We have great faith, but with waiting it sometimes feels like time and circumstances will get in the way of our hope.

As Advent moves into this fourth Sunday, what are you longing for? Does waiting test your belief? Will you know when your wait has been realized? As the Gospel says this week, "Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken to you by the Lord would be fulfilled."



### Year End Giving 2018

Please note that end of year contributions for 2018 tax records must be received in the parish office by Monday, December 31st. When making your year end gifts, please consider taking advantage of the option to sign up for monthly automatic withdrawal through your checking or savings account for your regular contribution to the operating budget of the church. An additional contribution can be likewise, made to the building fund. Forms are available in the back of church and on our website. Thank you.

**Bulletin Deadline:** Wednesday at 9:00am.  
Email info. to [bulletin@stceciliasp.org](mailto:bulletin@stceciliasp.org).

**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.

### Stewardship-Fiscal Year July 1, 2018-June 30, 2019

#### Year to Date Financial Information as of September 30, 2018:

Anticipated Contributions	\$77,368
Actual Contributions	\$72,228
Building Fund Contributions	<u>\$1,999</u>
Total Income	\$74,227

Budgeted Expenses	\$96,735
Actual Expenses	\$84,745
Principal Payments on Debt	<u>\$3,627</u>
Total Expenditures	\$88,372

Revenues Over Expenses	(\$14,516)
Debt Outstanding	\$81,616

Alms Box Balance as of Dec 16 \$1,409.53

### Liturgical Ministers

#### Saturday, December 29, 4:30 pm

**Cross:**

**Book:** Bob S.

**Candle:**

**Lectors:** Kate O./Justin M.

**Host:** Karen V. W.

**Cup:** Ellen C./Teri D.

**Hospitality:** Colette S.

**Sacristan:** Marge V.

#### Sunday, December 30, 8:15 am

**Book:** Beth C.

**Lectors:** Steve C./Jean W.

**Host:** Stacia P.

**Cup:** Rose R./Eileen S.

**Sacristan:** Pat K.

#### Sunday, December 30, 10:00 am

**Cross:**

**Book:** Jack S.

**Candle:** Noë C./Norah S.

**Lector:** Ann K./Sue W.

**Host:** Mary Pat Z.

**Cup:** Kathy Z./Ken S.

**Cup:** Rosie F./Bill J.

**Hospitality:** Evelyn P.

**Sacristan:** Tom C.

## COMMUNITY NEWS

**The Gift of Warmth**

This Christmas season we will be collecting something warm for those in need. Suggested items (socks, gloves, mittens, hats, etc.) may be placed in the basket near the crèche. Thank you.

**Hospitality**

We offer hospitality following the 8:15 and 10:00am Masses and encourage everyone to gather in fellowship hall for conversation, coffee and donuts. This is a great way to build community! Hospitality hosts are needed especially following our 10:00am Mass. Ellen Demerath, our Hospitality Coordinator, is available to answer questions and provide training on hosting (ewd@umn.edu). If interested, sign up sheets are posted on the kitchen door. Thank you!

**2019 Catholic Calendars**

Please take home a 2019 Catholic reflections calendar which is available in the back of church. Thank you to Rich & Sharon Purcell from Holcomb-Henry-Boom-Purcell Funeral Home for providing them.

**Neighborhood Parking**

If you'll be celebrating Christmas Eve and/or Christmas Day Mass with us here at St. C's, please extend a parking courtesy to those attending, as well as our neighbors, by not blocking driveways, crosswalks and intersections. Thank you.

## PARISH CALENDAR

Sun		4th Sunday of Advent
Mon	Dec 24	Christmas Eve Parish Office Closed
	4:00	Carols
	4:30	Christmas Eve Mass
Tue	Dec 25	Christmas Day Parish Office Closed
	10:00	Christmas Day Mass
Wed	10:30	Nursing Home Service
Sun	Dec 30	Holy Family
Mon	Dec 31	New Year's Eve
Tue	Jan 1	New Year's Day
	10:00	Mass

**Hymn Numbers:**

Worship Aid, 1002, 420, 395

**Communion**

Eucharistic Ministers are available to bring Communion to anyone not able to join the procession at Mass. Please tell one of the hospitality ministers before Mass if you need this service.

## FAITH FORMATION

**Whole Community Wednesday - Christmas & New Year's Break**

Our WCW group will take a break for the holiday season and won't meet again until January 16th. That night we have small groups, including adult meditative yoga with Lisa Reiner. The potluck begins at 5:30pm with classes to follow at 6:30pm. *I hope you have a peaceful break and lots of quality time spent with your loved ones. I am so thankful for all of you and feel blessed to be a part of this amazing community! Theresa O'Toole*

**Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS)**

CGS Sunday school will continue to meet over the next few weeks with the exception of our family weekend on the 30th.

December 23rd - CGS - Nativity

December 30th - no classes, family weekend

January 6th - CGS - Epiphany

January 13th - Presentation in the Temple

**Rite of Enrollment**

Our Confirmation students will be presented to the parish on Sunday, January 13th during 10am Mass. Look for the prayer partner bulletin board in the Link that weekend. You can sign up to pray for our candidates during this very important time. More information will be sent out to the candidates' parents and sponsors as we near the enrollment.

**Youth Group Bake Sale - Update**

Our youth group raised over \$1,500 for their mission trip to Red Lake Reservation this past weekend. The money will go towards the cost of the trip for each teen and chaperone who would like to attend, and the rest will be donated to St. Mary's to help rebuild their church. The trip is scheduled for July 8th-12th. We want to sincerely thank you for your support of this effort!

## SOCIAL JUSTICE

**Here are some legislative opportunities to consider:****JRLC—Day on the Hill**

**Thursday, February 7, 2019**

JRLC's Day on the Hill is an annual policy briefing and lobby day. Participants are briefed on the JRLC issues that are being debated and voted on at our State Capitol. Clergy and lay people from across the state attend Day on the Hill to show our interfaith commitment to social justice and to participate in the lawmaking process. The event includes prayer, issue briefings, time to meet with your district and opportunities to take action. JRLC is the largest and most inclusive interfaith public interest group in Minnesota—people of diverse faiths bringing vision and wisdom to the public realm for the well being of Minnesotans. JRLC is authorized and governed by four sponsoring members: the Minnesota Catholic Conference, the Minnesota Council of Churches, the Jewish Community Relations Council of Minnesota and the Dakotas, and the Islamic Center of Minnesota. The JRLC Legislative Network involves over 8,000 faithful citizens and volunteers who act upon timely action alerts and issue briefings, and organize activities to shape public policy. Register for Day on the Hill at <http://jrlc.org/day-on-the-hill/registration>.

**Meet Governor Tim Walz at the ISIAH Membership Convention**

**Saturday, January 19th 11:00am-4:00pm/Minneapolis Convention Center**

ISIAH is bringing together a remarkable diverse group of people of different faiths, races, and backgrounds to meet with our new Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and Speaker of the House to discuss legislative priorities: 1) civic inclusion, 2) creating a caring economy, 3) climate justice, and 4) healthcare for all. This will be a rare opportunity to participate in the launching of the 2019 legislative process and meet other committed people of faith. The convention is the culmination of many months of work developing our faith agenda which promotes social and economic justice for all Minnesotans.

You can register at <http://bit.ly/cov2019> or by contacting Bob Kessler (651.334.2289) or [bobkessler45@gmail.com](mailto:bobkessler45@gmail.com). We will be carpooling from St. Cecilia's at 10:15am on Saturday the 19th.