



Church of Saint Cecilia

2357 Bayless Place, Saint Paul MN 55114
www.StCeciliaSPM.org 651-644-4502

Mass: Saturday 4:30 pm; Sunday 9:30 am
Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday 3:45 pm

The Ascension of the Lord: May 17, 2026



Behold I am with you always

Thanks Theresa!

Last week, Theresa O'Toole convened her final Whole Community Wednesday year end celebration which included a meal, prayer service and celebratory cake with our First Communion families.

Over the past twelve years, these gatherings have included a video presentation of the past year's events. This year's presentation more broadly included a panoramic review of the past twelve years of her (and our) ministry events such as our annual children's advent program, service projects, retreats, sacramental preparation gatherings for First Communion, Confirmation and other special gatherings and moments she captured in pictures.



As a parish we have much for which to be grateful.

Theresa's term of service with us has spanned the long and difficult period of the Covid epidemic which resulted in a lengthy and complicated period of post traumatic stress which organizations and communities such as ours experienced. Theresa greatly helped us all pivot and adjust as we tried to keep our essential work of building community moving forward.

Included among her many personal gifts are great organizational and technological skills which brought us together for serious fun and learning while we entered the era of Zoom, recording, streaming and internet.

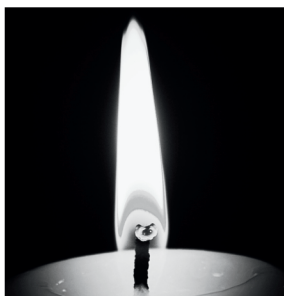
She chose the Wednesday evening event instead of a special weekend appreciation gathering as her final public event. She has shied away from the spotlight at large public moments (despite demonstrating some complicated dance moves at the recent parish talent show, which she also helped organize).

She has also been extremely busy with family events with her husband Kevin for their graduating daughter Delaney, performing daughter Cassidy and energetic son Tommy.

I encourage you to express appreciation in your own way as Theresa helps us tie loose ends to help a yet to be determined new staff person join us.

Thank you, Thank you, Thank you!

John Hofstede



Taizé Prayer

Wednesday, May 20
7:00 pm

*A peaceful hour of
music, prayer, and quiet.*

All are welcome!

MUSIC

Entrance:	#949 <i>Alleluia! Sing to Jesus</i>
Gloria:	#271
Psalms 47	#50 <i>God mounts his throne to shouts of joy, O sing your praises to the Lord!</i>
Gospel Acclamation:	#537
Preparation:	Breath of God by Daniel Kantor <i>Come upon us, come restore us, Come inspire us, Breath of God.</i>
Eucharistic Acclamations:	#198, 200, 202, 204
Communion:	#920 <i>Pan de Vida</i>
Closing:	#546 <i>Go to the World!</i>

READINGS

Acts 1: 1-11. *Between Easter and Ascension Jesus instructed the apostles and instructed them "to wait...for you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit." Eventually, Jesus will return gloriously, the same way by which he ascended from their midst.*

Psalms (46)47, 2-3, 6-7, 8-9. *God mounts his throne to shouts of joy, a blare of trumpets to the Lord.*

Ephesians 1:17-23. *Christ's "fullness fills the universe" and so the Lord distributes "the wealth of his glorious heritage" and "the immeasurable scope of his power in us who believe."*

Matthew 28: 16-20. *Stresses the Lord's universal authority and the commission of the apostles to "make disciples of all nations." It was spoken by Jesus in Galilee.*

THIS WEEK

Tuesday, May 19

7:00 pm Choir

Wednesday, May 20

7:00 pm Taizé Prayer

Saturday, May 23

3:45 pm Reconciliation

4:30 pm Mass

Sunday, May 24

Pentecost

9:30 am Mass

UPCOMING

Online Evening Prayer with Young Adults May 26, 7 pm

Young adults ages 18+ are invited to pray online together with other young adults and School Sisters of Notre Dame from across the U.S. and Canada on Tuesday, May 26 at 7 p.m. CT. Experience evening prayer in the gentle rhythm of the Liturgy of the Hours (psalms, scripture and intercessions), with time for faith sharing in breakout groups. Please register in advance for the Zoom link at ssnd.org/events/5-26-26/.

FAITH FORMATION

Mission Trip News

Upcoming Youth Group Meetings following 9:30 am Mass: May 17 & June 14.

Trip Dates: July 19-25

Faith Formation Upcoming:

May 17 - Final CGS class, Mission Trip meeting at 10:30am

June 14 - Mission Trip meeting at 10:30am

July 19-25 - Common Hope Mission Trip



2026 Saint Anthony Park Buy Nothing Exchange and Community Meal

Saturday, May 23rd from 10 am-1 pm
Hampden Park on Raymond Ave

Only items in **Good Condition** will be accepted! Please, **NO broken items**.

We DO accept the following:

- Clothing
- Toys, Games, Sports Equipment
- Home Goods
- Toiletries
- Non-perishable food

We DO NOT accept the following:

- Furniture or heavy equipment
- Hazardous materials or construction supplies
- Open beauty or hygiene products
- Perishable food items

Drop-off items at any of the five churches below anytime they are open before May 21st, or at Hampden Park during the May 23rd event.

Church Locations:

- Centennial United Methodist: 2200 W. Hillside Ave
- SAP Lutheran: 2323 Como Ave
- SAP United Church of Christ: 2129 Commonwealth Ave
- St. Matthew's Episcopal: 2136 Carter Ave
- St. Cecilia's Catholic: 2357 Bayless Pl

Freewill monetary donations can be made to the Saint Anthony Park Community Foundation

PARISH STAFF

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Wendy Johnson

Communications Coordinator
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Trustees

Matthew Tande & Mary Ellen Ryan

SAINT-OF-THE-MONTH



Do you know St. Isidore, the farm worker? He had some very interesting co-workers! Check out all the visuals and a story on the bulletin board to appreciate all the hard work done by many farm workers who bring us our fruits and vegetables.

Ascension Day

We saw his light break through the cloud of glory
Whilst we were rooted still in time and place
As earth became a part of Heaven's story
And heaven opened to his human face.
We saw him go and yet we were not parted
He took us with him to the heart of things
The heart that broke for all the broken-hearted
Is whole and Heaven-centred now, and sings,
Sings in the strength that rises out of weakness,
Sings through the clouds that veil him from our sight,
Whilst we our selves become his clouds of witness
And sing the waning darkness into light,
His light in us, and ours in him concealed,
Which all creation waits to see revealed.

Malcolm Guite (b. 1957)

Ayodeji Malcolm Guite (b.1957) is an English poet, singer-songwriter, Anglican priest, and academic. Born in Nigeria to British expatriate parents, Guite earned degrees from Cambridge and Durham universities. This poem is from Sounding the Seasons: 70 Sonnets for the Christian Year (Canterbury Press, 2012).



Nova Angelus by Paul Klee

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