



# Church of Saint Cecilia

2357 Bayless Place • Saint Paul, MN 55114  
651.644.4502  
Fax 651.647.1445 • [www.stceciliasp.org](http://www.stceciliasp.org)

Weekly Masses:  
Saturday 4:30 & Sunday 9:30  
Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday 3:45



a **shoot** shall **sprout** from the **stump** of Jesse

## WELCOME

To join the parish, please  
call the office at  
651.644.4502

## OFFICE HOURS

The parish office is open  
Monday-Thursday  
10:00am to 2:00pm

## PARISH STAFF

**John M. Hofstede**  
Pastor  
651.644.4502 x 14  
[pastor@stceciliasp.org](mailto:pastor@stceciliasp.org)

**Colleen Smith**  
Parish Operations &  
Safe Environment Coordinator  
651.644.4502 x 18  
[colleen@stceciliasp.org](mailto:colleen@stceciliasp.org)

**Marge Virnig**  
Pastoral Associate  
651.644-4502 x 12  
[marge@stceciliasp.org](mailto:marge@stceciliasp.org)

**Betsy Sullivan**  
Director of Liturgical Music  
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**Linda Whiteneck**  
Parish Administrative Assistant  
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**Theresa O'Toole**  
Catechetical Ministry Coordinator  
651.644.4502 x 13  
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Communications Coordinator  
651.644.4502 x 11  
[bulletin@stceciliasp.org](mailto:bulletin@stceciliasp.org)

Trustees  
**Matthew Tande & Mary Ellen Ryan**

The Church of Saint Cecilia

An Advent Prayer

(written by our parishioner, Michael Dennis Browne,  
on the occasion of our centennial year—2012)

In joyful expectation of the day of Christ Jesus to come, let us pray:

For the church,  
all places and peoples, all voices and colors  
For all who minister  
who labor and journey to bring forth the word,  
For the faithful  
who gather in simple buildings or mighty,  
who are unable to gather because of persecution.

In silence we pray:

For all leaders  
who govern under the pressure and loneliness of power  
For nations in pain  
who cannot provide for their people  
For nations divided from within  
who look for peace

In silence we pray:

For those who are sick  
whose days are pain and whose nights are endless  
For the lonely  
who are excluded and look on from a distance  
For those without a voice  
who have no power and no advocates

In silence we pray:

For those who have died and for those who grieve  
who suffer loss and have no where to turn.  
For those who rest in the assurance of that love  
which knows no bounds.

In silence we pray:

Gracious God, you are Lord of creation and Father of all nations. Hear the prayers we offer in joyful hope until the coming of our Messiah and King, our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit as one God, forever and ever.

Holy Day

Monday, December 8th is the Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, a holy day. Mass will be celebrated at 12:05pm.

Christmas Schedule

Christmas Eve: 4:00  
Christmas Carols 4:30 Mass  
  
Christmas Day: 9:30 Mass

Financial results for the First Quarter ended September 30, 2025

Budgeted Operating Revenues	\$90,000
Actual Operating Revenues	\$80,485
Budgeted Operating Expenses	\$97,650
Actual Operating Expenses	\$85,055
Budgeted Operating Deficit	(\$7,650)
Actual Operating Deficit	(\$4,570)
Building Contributions	\$893
Major Building Repairs	(\$9,672)
Total Deficit	(\$13,349)

Liturgical Ministers

Saturday, December 13, 4:30pm

Book:	Scott S.
Lectors:	Steve C. & Arthur A.
Host:	Karen V-W.
Cup:	Ellen C. & Sue W.
Greeter:	Ellen C.
Sacristan:	Kathy W.

Sunday, December 14, 9:30am

Book:	Larry C.
Lectors:	Art/Kathy Z.
Host:	Mary Pat Z.
Cup:	Mary M./Claudia B.
Greeter:	Rose A.
Sacristan:	Mary Clare L.

Parish Calendar

Sun	Second Sunday of Advent Giving Tree Gifts Due LWC, CGS, 1st Eucharist , 10:30 Advent Program Practice
Mon.	Feast of Immaculate Conception 12:05 Liturgy
Tue	7:00 Choir
Wed	Loaves and Fishes Office Closed Staff Development
Thu.	4:00 Giving Tree Sort
Sat.	3:15 to 4:15—Confessions
Sun	Third Sunday of Advent Religious Retirement Fund Food Drive

Early Bulletin Deadline: Submissions for December 14th bulletin due Tuesday, December 9nd by 9:00am. Submissions for Dec. 21 bulletin due Dec. 11. Email submissions to bulletin@stceciliasp.org.

## COMMUNITY NEWS

### Christmas Flowers

We will decorate our sanctuary with flowers through the Christmas season. We invite you to make a donation for flowers in memory of a deceased loved one or in honor of someone special. Forms are available in the back of church. A suggested donation of \$20 per plant is appreciated. If you would like your name with intention published, please return the completed form with payment to the parish office by Monday, December 8th. Thank you.

### Advent Time for Families

The Jesse Tree is an ancient tradition which offers children stories of Jesus' ancestors. Take a little time to give children the calm and quiet of Advent, with short stories and a little coloring. Booklets for using the Jesse Tree are available for free in a display downstairs.

### Youth Group Fundraiser & SAVE THE DATE!

Save the date for our trivia night on Friday, January 16th at 6pm. Get your teams of 6-8 ready to compete for a great cause! More details to follow. Our Guatemala group will be taking orders for St. Cecilia t-shirts after Sunday Masses over the next few weekends. Support our trip and get a fantastic shirt with the St. C's logo! Adult shirts are \$20 and Youth sizes are \$15. We will take orders until Jan 16 and get them printed in early Feb. Thanks for your support!

### Food Drive Next Weekend

We'll be collecting nonperishable food, personal care items and monetary donations for our neighborhood food shelf, Keystone Community Services  
*Nonperishable food items:* baking ingredients, boxed potatoes & stuffing, canned fruits and vegetables, cooking oil, cereal, pasta, spices, holiday snacks, etc.  
*Personal care items:* toilet paper, power towels, paper plates and napkins, cleaning products, dish soap, laundry detergent, baby diapers, etc.

### Giving Tree Gifts are Due

All gifts are to be returned to the Link, UNWRAPPED with the gift tag securely fastened, by this Sunday, December 7th

## Faith FORMATION

### Advent Program Update

I'm thrilled to present our advent program roles! Since we are a smallish group, many students will have more than one role listed below. I shifted a few of the older students around because we had a surplus of people interested in the Dove this year. :) Please reach out if I've made any errors or if your student is not up for the assigned role. Thank you so much for helping to promote full participation!

**Readers:** Helen S, Claudia S, Mary Grace L, Ollie A, Isabel H, Teddy H, Charlie A, Eddie A

**Star:** Maggie H

**Mary:** Esme L

**Joseph:** Ollie A

**Stage crew:** Finn A, Delaney, Cassidy, Maggie H, Lucy, Oliver G

**Donkey:** Helen S, Mary Grace L, Claudia S, Isabel H

**Cow:** Leo S, Kai T, Edmund G

**Sheep:** Leo Sands, Ben Sands

**Dove:** Sloane T, Stella B, Adrienne S, Finn H

**Angels:** Ivy H, Alita T, Billie V

**Head Angel:** Lucy R

**Shepherds:** James S, Otto J, Teddy H, Finn A, Henry A, Anders T, Leo S.

Practices are on Dec 7 & 14 after Mass and the program will take place on Dec 21 during Mass. I am looking forward to another beautiful representation of the Christmas story!

### Bring-a-Buddy to WCW!

**WCW is NOT just for school-aged children and their families!** I am hoping to increase attendance and widen our reach at our WCW evenings. We want to extend a warm welcome to parishioners of all ages, so find someone at donuts and invite them to join us! Anyone who brings a new friend, neighbor, or St. C's parishioner to a meeting will get to put their name in a hat. I will also put an entry in for anyone new who comes to check it out. I will pull a winner after January's meeting.



Visit the Care for Creation website  
<https://stcs-careforcreation.netlify.app/>,  
or scan the QR code.

### Attention Crafters!

If you knit, crochet, embroider, needlework or any craft not mentioned here - or if you just like to get together with fun and creative people, come and join a group of like minded people for Craft Night. We will gather at church every other Monday at 6:30 starting Dec. 8.

**Retirement Fund for Religious.** Next weekend is our annual collection for our retired religious. Your generosity ensures they can age with dignity. Donations provide housing, medical assistance, and essential support for thousands of aging religious. Please consider giving next week, and thank you in advance.

### Music for Liturgy

Opening	Wreath Song
Penitential Act	#206
Psalm 72	#994
Gospel Acclamation	#411
Preparation: "Show Us Your Kindness O God"	
Eucharistic Acclamations	#211, 213, 215, 216
Communion	#397
Closing	#409

### Second Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 11:1-10. *After destruction and long waiting, the offspring of David will come as a tender shoot of the hidden root of Jesse, David's father, a new paradise will be shared by all.*

Psalm 72: **Justice will flourish in his time, and fullness of peace forever.**

Romans 15:4-9. *Everything has been written for our instruction and encouragement, so that we may live in peaceful harmony with one another.*

Matthew 3:1-12 *John the Baptist appeared, a voice crying in the wilderness, a threat to the powerful, a humble precursor to Jesus. Jesus will gather the wheat into a granary but will burn the chaff with unquenchable fire.*



Have a plan for the ones you leave behind.

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