



Church of Saint Cecilia

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

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

WELCOME

To join the parish please call
the office at 651.644.4502

OFFICE HOURS

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

PARISH STAFF

John M. Hofstede
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Colleen Smith
Parish Operations & Safe
Environment Coordinator
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Pastoral Associate
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Betsy Sullivan
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Parish Administrative Assistant
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Theresa O'Toole
Catechetical Ministry
Coordinator 651.644.4502 x 13
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Wendy Johnson
Communications Coordinator
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Trustees

Matthew Tande & Mary Ellen Ryan

The Church of Saint Cecilia

Ways You Can Help

Many are wondering what we can do to meet the needs of our friends and neighbors during these difficult times. Here are some opportunities:

SUNDAY in the Lower Link: Minnesota T-Shirt Fundraiser for South Education Center.

Families in the South Education Center community are facing increased hardship and uncertainty. Many are in need of basic support such as groceries, baby supplies, and rent assistance. As part of our parish effort to respond with compassion and solidarity, we are raising funds through donations and t-shirt sales. All proceeds will go toward mutual aid for families connected to the school. If you feel called to help, you may give directly to Paul Ruhland or via Venmo @MarissaHirsch code 4767 "Mutual Aid – St. C's").

FOOD DONATIONS

We are always accepting food donations in the lower link and will make sure these items make it to our neighbors in need.

Neighborhood House: We are collecting *coffee, tea, and spices* for Neighborhood House during the month of February. Donations can be left in the lower link in the blue bin. Please donate regular-sized spices (not bulk/warehouse size) and one-pound packages of ground coffee. See the weekly email for ways to have items delivered directly to Neighborhood House from Penzeys, Peace Coffee, and Café Juan Ana.

Amazon Wish List: There is an Amazon wish list of items that will be delivered directly to a local coordinator: Contact Marge if you have questions or need more information.

https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/5Z9KNDWLGUSZ?ref=wl_share

Baby Clothes: We have a parishioner collecting baby clothes for pregnant women. Please leave donations in the lower link.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

We continue to accept donations in the Alms box and will direct funds to our neighbors with mounting needs.

Every Meal: As of February 6, Every Meal has delivered **23,035 food bags** directly to trusted school and community partners who ensure they reach children in our community. To meet the increased need in the community over the next 2-3 weeks, Every Meal anticipates providing an additional 20,000 bags of food. Check their website for updates, www.EveryMeal.org.

Keystone: Keystone's mission is to build capacity in individuals and families so they can improve their quality of life. Focused on St. Paul and Ramsey County for more than 80 years, Keystone is facing unprecedented requests for support. More on their website:

www.KeystoneServices.org.

Interfaith Action: Through Project Home, Department of Indian Work, and Interfaith Service and Learning, Interfaith Action is committed to relieving the causes and impact of poverty. Website: www.InterfaithAction.org.

Catholic Community Foundation of Minnesota: CCF has reactivated the Minnesota Catholic Relief Fund. Donations to the fund provide financial support for local Catholic communities and schools as they accompany individuals and families navigating uncertainty and need.

Website: www.ccf-mn.org.

St. Vincent de Paul: Profits from this much-beloved local thrift store pay for emergency rents, utilities, groceries, prescriptions, and clothing. Currently, sales are down 40% from the same period last year. Make a donation through their website, www.svdpmpls.org.

LENTEN FAST, ABSTINENCE

As a Church, we are asked to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and the Fridays of Lent. This applies to all who have completed their fourteenth year of age. Fasting (one full meal a day with smaller quantities of food at the other two meals) is to be observed on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.

The obligation of fasting binds those who have completed their twenty-first year and ceases with the celebration on one's sixtieth birthday.

All the faithful, even those excused from fasting and abstinence because of age, physical conditions and the like, should strive to perform some form of penance during Lent.

Works of charity, acts of neighborly concern and generous giving are highly recommended. An offering of time and talent, carried out safely, to someone in need of attention would be a good resolution to make and keep this season.

The **Catholic Services Appeal** raises over \$8.5 million annually and supports ministries in three primary areas:

Education, Discipleship and Evangelization, and Humanitarian Care. Envelopes and Fliers are available in the entry way.

Global Solidarity Sunday will be observed in the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis on the weekend of March 14-15. This year the theme is "Embracing God's Light" (Ephesians 5:8). On this day, we will take up a combined collection of solidarity to support the four church regions: Eastern Europe, Latin America, Africa, and the humanitarian activities of Catholic Relief Service.

Face masks are available in our Church's entryway. If you are feeling unwell, stay home and protect yourself and others. We record our liturgies so folks can stay connected

COMMUNITY EVENTS

February 24: Lumen Christi parishioner and University of St. Thomas emerita professor Anne Klejment is leading a free Zoom book discussion on Tuesday evenings during Lent. The group will read and discuss Servant of God Dorothy Day's 1963 book, *Loaves and Fishes*, the story of the Catholic Worker movement. To learn more and register: <https://www.dorothydayguild.org/events>

February 26, 9:30-2:30: Are you worried about our immigrant brothers and sisters? Are you worried about the effect of climate weirdness on our planet? Make your voices heard! Join UNIDOS for a day at the Capitol. People who register will have appointments made by UNIDOS staff with their state representative and senator, so they can share their concerns, and press for action. Registration details in the weekly email. Questions? Call Mary Pat Dunlap at 651 261-4361.

February 28, 10 am: The election of Leo XIV signifies the overcoming of the taboo according to which it was unthinkable that a citizen of a global superpower should be elected to the papacy. Dr. Massimo Faggioli will be at St. Cecilia's to offer an analysis of the election of Leo XIV and its meaning for global Catholic Church and the Catholic Church in the USA in this ecclesial and historical moment. Free will offerings will be accepted.

February 28, 12-1:45 pm: Parishioner Marilee Giere is leading a group at Feed My Starving Children at the Coon Rapids location. Check parish email for registration information.

February 28, 2:30-10 pm: Game Night in Friendship Hall. Come and bring friends, games and food to share. Call Marilee Giere 651-633-6286 with questions.

UPCOMING

MARK YOUR CALENDAR for the annual Parish Event - April 18 & 19

The wheels are in motion for planning this spring's parish celebration! Our first meeting is online on Sunday, February 22nd at 7pm. If you would like to help out, please email theresa@stcecciliasp.org and she will send you the meeting link. Also, start collecting new/unused silent auction items and gift cards. This is our largest fundraiser of the year, and we appreciate and rely on your support!

Faith FORMATION

Sacramental Preparation & Rescheduled Chalice Workshop

On Sunday, February 22 we have our Welcoming ceremony. During Mass the students who will be receiving First Eucharist will be called forward and introduced to the parish. They will receive a special blessing, and our parishioners can show their love and support by signing up to be prayer partners in the link. Students will have class that day, but they can begin up in church and Mary Pat will take them down for class afterwards. Our chalice workshop is rescheduled for after Mass on Feb 22 as well. Students also have a parent-child First Eucharist retreat on Saturday, March 7th from 9am-12:30pm.

It's Cookie Time!

Girl Scouts will be selling cookies in the lower level link after Masses the weekend of March 7th and 8th. Cookies are \$6 per box. If you have a girl scout who would like to participate, please reach out. Thank you for supporting our scouts!

CGS Schedule Change

CGS will not meet on March 1st as initially communicated because Janet will be out of town. The dates for CGS for March will be March 15, 22, & 29. Please mark your calendars, thanks!

Mission Trip News

Upcoming Youth Group Meetings following 9:30am Mass: Feb 22, April 12, May 17 & June 14.

Trip Dates: July 19-25

PARISH CALENDAR February 22-March 1

- Sun. 1st Sunday of Lent
Welcoming Weekend
9:30 am First Eucharist & CGS
10:30 am Chalice Workshop
- Tues. **7:00 pm** Choir
- Sat. **10:00 am** Dr. Massimo Faggioli
4:30 pm Mass
2:30 pm Game night
- Sun. 2nd Sunday of Lent
9:30 am FF Liturgy of the Word

PARISH NEWS

UPDATE on Rachytskya family

Many have asked how our refugee family has been holding up in the current atmosphere of intolerance for immigrants. They are living and working in a relatively safe area. Yuliia says it's been an extremely tense and long winter, though. They are on high alert for themselves and friends with ICE, but even more so, they grieve the ever-worsening conflict in Ukraine. Her father is back serving in the military. "We are grateful for your continued love and support - ... we ask for prayers..."

submitted by JoAnn Mason on behalf of Yuliia, Viktor, Dianna and Viktor jr.

Security Camera Installed

Last week, we installed a security camera that covers the two lower entrances to our building. This will allow our staff to have visible confirmation of a visitor before they are buzzed in when doors are locked and will provide an extra layer of safety when doors are unlocked for scheduled activities.

Music for Liturgy February 21/22

Psalm 51	#51
Gospel Acclamation	#195
Preparation	#484 Hosea
Communion	#478 Return to God

1st Sunday in Lent

Genesis 2:7-9, 3:1-7. Despite the beautiful garden where the Lord God made a home for the first couple, they disobeyed and lost their innocence.

Psalm 51: Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

Romans 5:12-19. "Just as through one person's disobedience all became sinners, so through one person's obedience all shall become just."

Matthew 4:1-11. Jesus, while fasting in the desert is tempted three times by the devil.

Have a plan for the ones you leave behind.

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