



Church of Saint Cecilia

2357 Bayless Place • Saint Paul, MN 55114
651.644.4502
Fax 651.647.1445 • www.stceciliasp.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-Thursday
10:00am to 2:00pm

The tax collector and the Pharisee

PARISH STAFF

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Trustees
Matthew Tande & Mary Ellen Ryan

The Church of Saint Cecilia

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month

Abuse Cannot Be Blamed on Alcoholism or Mental Illness

Abusers love excuses. They yelled at you because they were drunk. They hit you because they were hit as children. They're abusive because they're depressed. It's not their fault. You should be more understanding.

Abusers will not take meaningful responsibility for their behavior. The first step to change is admitting that they are accountable for how they have treated you. Abusers who deny what they have done or who blame it on something or someone else — are not ready to change.

Domestic Violence, Alcohol and Drugs

Alcohol and drugs do not cause domestic violence. Abusing alcohol and drugs can make the episodes worse and more frequent, however. Abusers who complete substance abuse treatment may become less violent, but they are not apt to become less controlling. They need to address their controlling tendencies, too, or they will just become sober abusers. A victim-survivor, Kendra, illustrated this point for me when she said, "Bob came home from rehab acting like now everything was fine and I should just forgive the previous decade. In fact, he acted like I owed him big time since he had sacrificed his beloved booze 'for my sake.'"

Christine Cocchiola, DSW, works with mothers who are victims of coercive control domestic abuse. She describes how much some mothers want to believe that abusers have no control over their actions. "Over and over again in my clinical work I see victims yearning for a simple solution. 'If he would just stop drinking or drugging, the abuse would stop.' Unfortunately, even when perpetrators complete treatment, the abuse rarely stops."

Victim-survivors don't want to break up their families or abandon the abuser, who claims to be suffering. They may have been told for so long that they are to blame for the relationship problems that they may wonder if this is true. Victim-survivors tend to be loyal and conscientious. But no matter how hard they try, they cannot "fix" the abuser. Abusers who truly want to change can take steps to accomplish this such as joining a batterer intervention program (individual counseling generally does not help). No one is required to stay by the side of abusers just because they claim they are taking steps to change.

Abuse and Mental Illness May Overlap: But Mental Illness Does Not "Cause" Abuse

Mental illness does not "cause" domestic abuse, either. People with certain mental illnesses may have poor interpersonal skills and out-of-control emotions. People who are psychotic may be off-kilter in every arena of their lives, including at home. Abusers are in control of their behavior if they behave well in public and turn into "a monster" only in private. They are choosing their timing and targets.

People who suffer from depression, anxiety disorders, panic disorders, substance use disorders and personality disorders are more likely to abuse their partners than people without these problems. But the mental illness does not cause them to strike out against their partners. Treatment for the mental illness will not necessarily make them less violent. And most people with mental illness do not harm others.

Many domestic abusers want to blame their behavior on something they cannot control, such as a mental illness, substance abuse or a family history of violence. We must remember that none of these conditions require the person to abuse their partner.

continued

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, November 1, 4:30pm**

Book:	Mary F.
Lectors:	Bob T./Beth C.
Host:	Ellen C.
Cup:	Steve C./Ellen D.
Greeter:	Ellen C.
Sacristan:	Kathy W.

Sunday, November 2, 9:30am

Book:	Rose J.
Lectors:	Susan G./Mary Pat R.
Host:	Mary Pat Z.
Cup:	Claudia B./Ed Z.
Greeter:	Mary Pat D./Lucy R.
Sacristan:	Mary Clare L.

All Saints Day

All Saints Day is Saturday, November 1st. Our liturgy will be at 4:30pm only on Saturday, November 1st.

PARISH CALENDAR

Sun	9:30	1st Eucharist Class & CGS
Sat		All Saints Day
	4:30	Mass
Sun	9:30	FF Liturgy of the Word & CGS
	10:30	Book Group Discussion



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

continued

The excuses are lies. Domestic abusers choose to yell, hit, degrade, and dominate their partners because these acts help them achieve their goals. These goals might include power, sex, financial control or the illusion of a happy home. Abusers abuse because they can get away with it.

Why Do People Abuse Their Partners, Then?

If mental illness and addiction do not cause people to be abusive at home, what does? Abusers believe they have the right to control their partner by all means necessary, and many share common traits. Techniques of their abuse may include isolation, intimidation, monitoring, and physical, verbal, sexual, financial, and legal abuse.

Victim-survivors need to recognize that it is not their job to ensure the well-being of the perpetrator. Holding out hope that the abuse will end when these other problems are treated is not realistic, unfortunately," adds Dr. Cocchiola.

—Domesticshelters.org

COMMUNITY NEWS

Safety Team

We are in the process of forming a Safety Team that would help us review our facilities and practices and make recommendations for improvement. Please email colleen@stceciliaspam.org if you are interested.

Lector Books

If you're a lector, please stop by the work sacristy and pick up a 2026 lector book.

Craft Night

Bring your knitting, crocheting or other craft projects and gather on Monday, October 27th at 6:30pm in the soft room. Enjoy conversation while you work on your projects. We'll discuss future gathering dates at that time. Questions may be directed to the parish office.

Rest in Peace

We extend our deepest sympathy to Phyllis Hughes on the passing of husband Dick Hughes. Arrangements are scheduled for November 3rd. May he rest in the Peace of Christ.

Faith FORMATION

Whole Community Wednesday

Join us on **Wednesday, November 5th starting at 5:30pm** for our next Whole Community Wednesday evening. You can RSVP for this and future events at our signup genius link. We will make sandwiches for the homeless for the Sandwich Project. This is a fun and hands-on way to make a real difference in our community. The catered meal will take place from 5:30-6:30 (free will offering appreciated) then the project will follow. Our 400 sandwiches will go to the Groveland Food Shelf in Minneapolis. Hope to see you there!

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 the next 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 December's meeting. I'm hoping that this incentive will inspire you to welcome more people into the group and to encourage those who have been thinking about attending to commit to joining us. The prize is TBD, but I'm open to suggestions. :) Don't forget to RSVP.

Upcoming Events:

- Oct 25 - First Eucharist Intro retreat make-up day, 9am-12pm
- Oct 26 - CGS & First Eucharist, 9:30am
- Nov 2 - CGS & Lit of Word
- Nov 5 - WCW - The Sandwich Project

Book Group Discussion

Art Zannoni will lead a four week discussion group (after the 9:30 liturgies beginning on November 2nd) on Bill Huebsch's book *Encounter With The Holy*. All are welcome. Cost is \$8.00 for the book. Email Marge Virnig or sign up in the Link.

Small Groups

Four weeks with each week covering four sections of the book *Participation of the Heart: Deeper Engagement in the Mass*. The winter session will be another four weeks to cover the rest of the sessions. Cost of the book is \$15.95 (with group discount)—you can choose hard copy or PDF download. Contact Marge Virnig for more information.

Music for Liturgy

Opening	#848
Gloria	#323
Psalm 34 The Lord hears the cry of the poor. Blessed be the Lord.	
Gospel Acclamation	#332
Preparation (4:30) #724 (9:30) Choir	
Eucharistic Acclamations	#355, 356, 357, 388
Communion	#935
Closing	#598 vs. 1, 3

Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sirach 35:12-14.16-18. *The Lord hears the cry of the oppressed. It pierces the loud and does not rest till it reaches its goal.*

Psalm 34. The Lord hears the cry of the poor. Blessed be the Lord.

2 Timothy: 4:6-8,16-18. *I have finished the race; I have kept the faith. I look for Christ's appearance with eager longing. The Lord will rescue me and bring me safe to the heavenly kingdom.*

Luke 18:9-14. The parable of the publican and the Pharisee. Despite good behavior, the proud person is not justified; the humble person returns home justified.

Fair Trade Market

Saturday, November 1st, 10am-3pm, St. John Neumann Church (4030 Pilot Knob Road, Eagan). Lunch by Chef Jeff from 11am-1:30pm-eat in or take out.

Bulletin Deadline: Wednesdays at 9:00am. Email submissions to bulletin@stceciliaspam.org.

Have a plan for the ones you leave behind.

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