

# THE PARISH OF ST. CECILIA ~ ST. GABRIEL

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH  
**Saint Cecilia**                      **Saint Gabriel**  
1184 Newfield Ave.                      914 Newfield Ave.  
Stamford, CT 06905

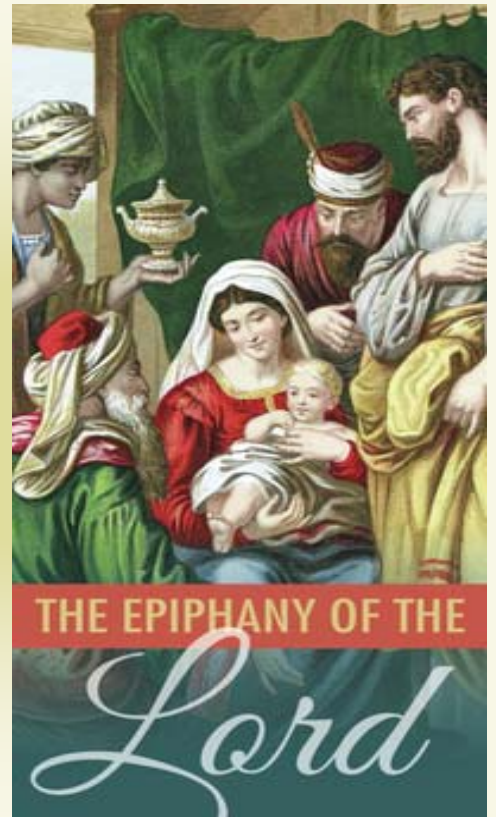
*January 5, 2020*

**Rev. John P. Connaughton, Pastor**

Rev. Mariusz M. Olbrys, Parochial Vicar

Deacon Larry Buzzeo

Seminarian Anh Vu



**Fr. John Connaughton, Pastor**  
FrConnaughton@diobpt.org

**Fr. Mariusz Olbrys, Parochial Vicar**  
FrOlbrys@diobpt.org

**Deacon Larry Buzzeo**  
Lbuz@optonline.net

**Seminarian Anh Vu**  
Anh.vu@diobpt.org

Parish Center Office hours: Monday - Friday, 9am - 4pm

**Maryanne Didelot, Director of Religious Education**  
DRE@stcecilia-stgabriel.org  
203-329-2707

**Gina DeVito, Parish Office Manager**  
Office@stcecilia-stgabriel.org  
203-322-1562

**Michele Schule, Organist and Music Director**  
203-322-1562

**Tom McKiernan, Business Manager**  
203-246-7681

**Mark Browning, Finance Council President**  
203-322-1562

**Vicki Alton, Prayer Line**  
VickiA@optonline.net  
or call the parish office 203-322-1562

**Patricia Brady, Head of School & Principal**  
**Catholic Academy of Stamford Lower School**  
203-322-6505

## MASS SCHEDULE

### Daily Mass

**7:30 am at St. Cecilia**

Rosary Daily—prior to the 7:30AM Mass

Novena to Our Lady of the Miraculous

Medal—Mondays following the 7:30am Mass

### Eucharistic Adoration

with Benediction every Wednesday night in the Church of St. Cecilia from 7:30-9pm with confession available.

CONFESSIONS at St. Gabriel

Saturday 3 P.M. to 3:50 P.M.

### Saturday Vigil Masses

**4:00 pm at St. Gabriel**

**5:30 pm at St. Cecilia**

### Sunday Masses

**7:30 am at St. Cecilia** (no music)

**9:00 am at St. Gabriel** (no music)

**9:00 am at St. Cecilia**

**11:15 am at St. Cecilia**

BAPTISMS: Sundays following 11:15am Mass at St. Cecilia.

WEDDINGS: St. Gabriel or St. Cecilia upon request of the couple.

Arrangements to be made at least six months prior to the wedding.

FUNERALS: at St. Gabriel or St. Cecilia upon request of the family.

Parish Website <http://stcecilia-stgabriel.org>

**SAINT GABRIEL CHURCH MASS INTENTIONS**

<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>January 4, 2020</b>
4 PM	Jason Lorenti (Family)
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>January 5, 2020</b>
9 AM	William Pannella (Paul & Tina Salvatore)
<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>January 11, 2020</b>
4 PM	Chuck Foster (Judy, Children & Grandchildren)
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>January 12, 2020</b>
9 AM	Joan R. McGirr (Diane Handley)

**SAINT CECILIA CHURCH MASS INTENTIONS**

<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>January 4, 2020</b>
5:30 PM	Sharon Sullivan (Her Sister)
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>January 5, 2020</b>
7:30 AM	Michael J. Murray (Peter & Diane Handley)
9 AM	Lilian Franchina (Granddaughters)
11:15 AM	Jean Florenza (Joseph Rainone Jr.)
<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>January 6, 2020</b>
	<i>St. Andre Bessette</i>
7:30 AM	Mary Somers (Sean Kinahan)
<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>January 7, 2020</b>
	<i>St. Raymond of Penafort</i>
7:30 AM	Helen Rothermich (Friend)
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>January 8, 2020</b>
7:30 AM	Larry Schmidt (Friend)
<b>THURSDAY</b>	<b>January 9, 2020</b>
7:30 AM	For the Parish
<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b>January 10, 2020</b>
7:30 AM	Sisters Campbell & Whalen (Jane & Heinz Hubli)
<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>January 11, 2020</b>
5:30 PM	Alfred DeCarlo Sr., & Jr. (Mary DeCarlo)
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>January 12, 2019</b>
7:30 AM	Rosemary O'Reilly (The Walker Family)
9 AM	MaryGrace Vagnone (Her Family)
11:15 AM	Gaetano Cecere & Vele Teresa (Giovanni & Carmelina Ferraro)

**Finding Truth**

This Monday, January 6, is the twelfth day of Christmas, which is the traditional date of the Epiphany. Liturgically, however, we always celebrate the Epiphany on the Sunday after the Feast of the Holy Family, when we hear the gospel account of the visit of the Magi to the infant Christ. The Magi (which is the Latin word for "wise men") were pagan astrologers who probably practiced the Zoroastrian religion. Astrology, or the study of the movement of the stars and planets in order to gain wisdom and knowledge and to predict important events, was widespread in the ancient world. In fact, excavations near the Dead Sea in the 1950s led to the discovery of well-preserved ancient Hebrew texts, some of which revealed an interest among some Jewish communities in astrology. Among fragments of Old Testament scriptures, archaeologists also found astrological charts from the first century before Christ that sought to predict the configuration of the heavens at the birth of the Messiah.

As Catholics, we do not look to astrology for truth or wisdom. The search for signs in the zodiac is much like the search for signs in the palms of our hands or in the flipping of tarot cards. These are forms of superstition that we must avoid. If we do give into the temptation to engage with them, we should include that in our sacramental confessions. But the gospel account of the Magi who recognize the birth of the King through the appearance of a star in the sky does reveal that the Lord can call people to Himself in various ways. It is true that the Magi begin their search for Jesus through something they found through their practice of astrology. But we discover in the account of the Magi a movement away from seeking truth in the movement of the stars to the finding of Truth in the manger of Bethlehem. Their earnest search for wisdom in the heavens leads them to Christ who is Wisdom, who is Heaven come to earth. They arrived in Bethlehem one way, but having found wisdom and truth in Bethlehem, the Magi are forever changed, and return to their homes by a different route.

The Wise Men's coming to Christ through the truths they identified by their study of the stars illustrates in a way the old saying that "God loves us the way we are. But He loves us too much to leave us that way." The Lord is calling all people to Himself. He can and does touch the hearts of those who do not know Him or believe in Him or love Him, but always for the sake that they might know Him and believe in Him and love Him. As Catholics we have received the fullness of Truth who is a Person, the Incarnate Word, Jesus Christ. This is a great gift, which comes with the responsibility of revealing the light of Christ to the nations by the way in which we live our lives, so that they might be drawn to encounter Him through the witness of the Church.

In Christ,  
Fr. John





Week of January 4, 2020

St. Gabriel Church Vigil Lamp for Our Lady Shines for Nick & Anne Lemone by family.



Please notice our New Beautiful Votive Candle Stands at the Blessed Mother and St. Joseph Statues in St. Cecilia Church. The stands are gifts from generous benefactors. We would like to add another stand soon. Please visit Mary and Joseph to say a prayer and light a candle.



The sick and their caregivers. Michael Pratt, Nick Pensiero, Tamika Anderson, Ken Byxbee, Sal Bonina, Conor Ehring, Mary Brundage, Matt Marshall, William Perkins, Tricia Saxe Coccomo, Steven Deccico, Richard Negyesi, Ed Adams, Msgr. Powers, Wendy Lenard, Edward Cioffi, Barbara Cebula, Columbia Smith, and Kaye Gill, Betty Schenarts, Baby Elyssa, Andrew Allesandro, Michael Anderson, Pat Arpaio, Gloria Boccuzzi, Christopher Brady, Amy Burns-Duda, Fr. Michael Cambi, Michael Cooper, Tim Cooper, Allyn Dodd, Carolyn Gagnon, Steve Grossman, Matthew J. Hammill, Eileen Hynes, Melissa Jambol, Musfira Khan, Kitty Mandi, Richard Nanos, Karen Parent, Chet Quinlan, Bill Ritchie, Bonnie Sigfried, Thomas Sparan, Dominic Totino, Alex Trebek, George Wetzler, Christopher Hoepfner, Caroline Andreana, Lori Ciccarella, Mark Mullen, Joe Butler, Kim Puglia, George Uzwiak, Fritz Hirsch.....all who travel ... the wounded and recovering military personnel and all who put themselves in harm's way to protect us,...victims of war, terrorism and violence around the world, ...those whom we remember in our Eucharistic Celebrations this weekend and throughout the week and those who have died most recently Agnes Benison and Alice Fortunato.

We also have a prayer line available for anyone wishing for immediate prayers. Please send your prayer needs to Vicki at VickiA@optonline.net

**If you are hospitalized or homebound and would like a visit or a communion call, please contact the parish office at 203-322-1562.**

**PRAYERS FOR THOSE IN MILITARY**

We pray that the Lord may preserve the members of our Army, Navy, Marines, Coast Guard, Air Force and National Guard from all harm...especially: SPC Thomas Boccuzzi, LCpl. Michael Lowe, SR Julia Terese Bova, Capt. Josie Quijano-Carpanzano, Capt. Mario Carpanzano, C.J. DelVaglio, Sgt. Taylor A. Ritchie, FN Ellie Fratturo, Maj. Michael J. Souza, Jack H Whitney, Christopher Ciacciarella, SA Joshua M. Hicks, SR Allison McNamara.

*Thank you everyone who helped decorate Our Parish for Christmas!*



*St. Cecilia Church*



*St. Gabriel Church*





### Music Notes Attention Singers!

Please see our Music Director Michele, email [micheleschule@gmail.com](mailto:micheleschule@gmail.com), contact a choir member or call the rectory at 203-322-1562 if you would like to join the choir.

*When you sing, you pray twice.*

*We would love to have you!*

*From Lessons & Carols,  
& Christmas*



*There will be no Tuesday evening rehearsals the month of January but will continue Sunday mornings at 10:30 before the 11:15 Mass.*

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION/FAITH FORMATION

Classes Resume January 5th and 7th  
Grades 1 – 8 and Confirmation - Sundays 10:05am to 11am  
Grades 1 – 6 Tuesdays 4:15pm to 5:10pm

Questions? Please contact our  
DRE, Maryanne Didelot at  
[DRE@stcecilia-stgabriel.org](mailto:DRE@stcecilia-stgabriel.org) or 203-329-2707

### *St. Cecilia - St. Gabriel*

#### *Offertory Totals*

*December 22, 2019*

*Weekly Offering: \$9,903*

*Online Giving Offering: \$4,068*

*Parish Christmas Offering \$27,924*

*Online Giving Christmas Offering \$4,975*

*Thank you for your generosity!*

*Due to early holiday bulletin deadlines our recent totals will not be updated until next week.*

# Online Giving

*Please consider On-line Giving in 2020  
Register at [www.osvonlinegiving.com/1522/](http://www.osvonlinegiving.com/1522/)  
Our Online Giving system provides you the opportunity to give to our special collections in addition to regular offerings. You can choose to do a One Time Gift, or you can set up Regularly Scheduled Contributions that are withdrawn on the date you specify in the system. Even if you typically use your offering envelopes, you may wish to contribute online to a particular collection. It's easy and it's convenient!*

*Please call the parish office or  
OSV Online giving 1-800-348-2886  
if you have questions or need assistance  
in setting up your account.*

Email "hotline" for parishioners to provide feedback and ask questions:  
[Madeleineterenzio@gmail.com](mailto:Madeleineterenzio@gmail.com)



**S.O.M.E** Please consider a weekly contribution of non-perishable food. S.O.M.E. (So Others May Eat) Baskets are at each church entrance. Please use strong reusable bags if possible and **please NO GLASS** jars. Your contributions will be delivered to the Food

Banks, Wilson Food Pantry, St. Joseph Parenting Center, St. Mary's Food Pantry, or New Covenant Center every week.

We brought 22 bags to Wilson Food Pantry last week. THANK YOU for your responsible stewardship. If you are interested in offering some of your time and talent to these on-going activities contact Bob Violette 203-357-1481 or John Cullen 203-322-1947.

### Meetings/Activities Schedule

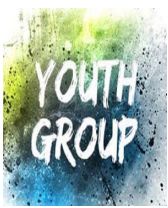
Mon.	1/6	7pm	Lectio Divina - Parish Center Conf. Rm.
Tues.	1/7	12-3pm	Senior Circle - St. Gabriel Church Hall
Tues.	1/7	1-3pm	Veteran's Project - Parish Center Sun Rm.
Tues.	1/7	7:30pm	- AA - St. Gabriel Hall
Wed.	1/8	7:30-9pm	Eucharistic Adoration & Confession - St. Cecilia Church
Wed.	1/8	10am	Handcraft Group - Parish Center Sun Rm.
Thurs.	1/9	7pm	AA - MH
Sat.	1/11	7:15am	Men's Breakfast - Parish Center
Sat.	1/11	7am	Men's Roundtable - St. Gabriel Hall

### Altar Server Training

Being an altar server is a wonderful way to serve the parish community and enhance the beauty of the Sacred Liturgy. If you have a child (boys and girls, grades 4-7), who is interested in learning how to serve at Mass, please contact the parish office.

Phone: 203-322-1562

Email: [office@stcecilia-stgabriel.org](mailto:office@stcecilia-stgabriel.org)



### STAMFORD CATHOLIC YOUTH GROUP

Upcoming meeting dates and locations are:  
High School: 1/10/20 – 7 to 9:00pm at St. Bridget Church;  
Middle School: 1/17/20 – 7 to 8:30pm at St. Gabriel Church;

All 6th - 12th grade youth from any parish are welcome to join us – just show up! Flyers with meeting and special event dates for Winter/Spring, 2020 can be found at the entrances to St. Cecilia and St. Gabriel Churches. It will also be posted to <http://stcecilia-stgabriel.org>. Contact Fr. Joseph Gill at [frjosephgill@gmail.com](mailto:frjosephgill@gmail.com), (203) 324-1553, Gina Denner (203) 968-6388 (Middle School), or Diane McNamara (203) 329-0866 (High School) for more info.

### HANDCRAFT GROUP

Each week we pray for the recipients as we continue our handcrafts, prayer shawls and baby blankets. Please join us! We continue to meet every Wednesday from 10 am - noon in the *Parish Center Sun Room*, or you can knit at home! Questions? Please call Candice Bryan 203.329.8932 or Kitty Carty 203.322.3771.



**We will meet again on Wednesday January 8, 2020.**

### SATURDAY MEN’S MINISTRY

To provide men of all ages the opportunity to reflect on sacred scripture, and see how it has meaning and purpose in our lives today. **We meet each Saturday morning 7:15 – 8:30 am in the Parish Center and reflect on sacred scripture over breakfast.** Coffee and bagels at 7 am. Contact Anthony Pramberger for information on this ministry at 203-968-1481

### ENCOUNTER WITH CHRIST MEN’S WEEKLY ROUNDTABLE

To Know, Live and Make Christ’s Love Known. **We meet at St Gabriel Church Hall on Saturday Mornings 7- 8 am.** Contact Bill Nagle for information on this ministry at 203-570-2593.



### “BAPTISM ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION”

Invitations to our first St. Cecilia-St. Gabriel “Baptism Anniversary Celebration” are on their way to all families of children baptized in 2019 and 2014-15.

On February 2, 2020, we will be gathering these families at the Church of St. Cecilia for the 11:15am mass, during which there will be a special blessing of all the children attending, followed by a brunch reception in McDermott Hall. All parishioners are welcome.

Please **PLAN TO JOIN US!**

Anyone who would like to help set-up, prepare food or assist at the event, please contact Gina Denner, at [ginadenner@optonline.net](mailto:ginadenner@optonline.net) or call (203) 968-6388.

**ALL are welcome.**

**We meet on Tuesdays**

12-3 pm at the St. Gabriel Church Hall. Come join us to play cards, games or just to chat, meet new people & make new friends. Any questions contact Dottie Annunziata 203-322-8830

**We will resume meeting on January 7, 2020.**



### The Columbiettes

**Auxiliary #5833** are grateful for the donations in our Outreach Basket, located in the front of the Church of St. Cecilia. During the month of January, we will be highlighting two items on our list - Baby Wipes and Playing Cards for children and adults. Baby Wipes are in great demand. Other items on our list are shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, hair brushes, socks for children and adults, small board games and diapers. Donations are always welcome as the need is sadly growing in our community. God bless you for your efforts and thank you!



Questions? Contact Nancy at (203)-562-6222

### Join the Veterans Project!

Help make a lap robe for a wheelchair Vet. Tuesdays 1 - 3 pm in the *Parish Center Sun Room*. Contact Helen D’Elia 203-322-0615.

**We will resume meeting on January 7, 2020.**



Our next “Two Thousand Hail Marys” will be Saturday, February 1, 2020 in the St. Philip Neri Chapel at St. Gabriel 6 AM to 3 PM. Mass at 8AM in the Church. Come Pray to the Blessed Mother. Stay for a few minutes, a couple of hours, or for the whole time. Questions? Call Tessie Senerador 203-570-3109

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### St. Cecilia – St. Gabriel Bible Study Ephesians – Discover Your Inheritance

Ephesians was one of the most widely circulated of St. Paul's writings because of its powerful, practical instructions for disciples of Christ. Ephesians: Discover Your Inheritance examines several much-discussed themes in today's Christian culture and society. In this 8-session program, presenter Jeff Cavins explores what Paul's letter to the Ephesians tells us about the nature of the Church—as a body, as a household, as a mystery, as a communion, as a bride, and as an army.

Starting Jan. 16, 2020, Thursday night at 7:15 p.m. & repeated on Jan. 17th Friday morning at 9:15 a.m. **Meetings are held in the St. Gabriel Church hall.** New members are always welcome.

To register for Ephesians, please call or email Vicki Alton at c203-561-3558 or VickiA@optonline.net; participant workbook is \$30.00.

Join the Diocese of Bridgeport on a Bus Pilgrimage to Washington, D.C. for the 47th March for Life Friday, January 24, 2020.



This year's theme is: Life Empowers: Pro-Life is Pro-Woman. Buses depart from 3 locations – Bridgeport, Norwalk, and Stamford. Cost is \$75.00 per person (non-refundable). Register by Friday, January 17, 2020 at: <https://www.bridgeportdiocese.org/faith-formation>

#### Schedule

5:00 a.m.	Depart The Cathedral Parish, Bridgeport
5:30 a.m.	Pick up at St. Thomas Apostle, Norwalk
6:00 a.m.	Pick up at Basilica of St. John the Evangelist, Stamford
11:30 a.m.	Arrive at March
4:00 p.m.	Depart for Connecticut

PLEASE NOTE: In the event of snow, unless travel is not recommended, the pilgrimage WILL take place. Tickets are non-refundable.

You are welcome to bring your own food and drink on the bus.

For more information, email

[officeoffaithformation@diobpt.org](mailto:officeoffaithformation@diobpt.org) or call (203) 416-1670.

If you are unable to travel to Washington D.C., please join us in prayer the night before on Thursday, January 23, 2020 at 6:30pm for the March for Life 2020 Mass celebrated by Bishop Caggiano at St. Augustine's Cathedral in Bridgeport.

#### Books, CDs, Booklets, Pamphlets

The kiosk in the vestibule of St. Cecilia Church offers an inspirational opportunity from the Augustine Institute for parishioners, visitors and friends. These CDs, books and booklets include explanations of our Catholic Faith, accounts of God's incredible mercy and practical information for living our faith. Take a few minutes either before Mass or after to browse through the available selections. New titles arrive often. Visit the kiosk – you'll be glad you did!

PLEASE JOIN US FOR AN

## OPEN HOUSE

MONDAY, JANUARY 27

6:30 PM - 8:30 PM

948 NEWFIELD AVENUE, STAMFORD

Questions: [cardinalkungacademy@gmail.com](mailto:cardinalkungacademy@gmail.com)

PHONE: 203-329-8296

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