

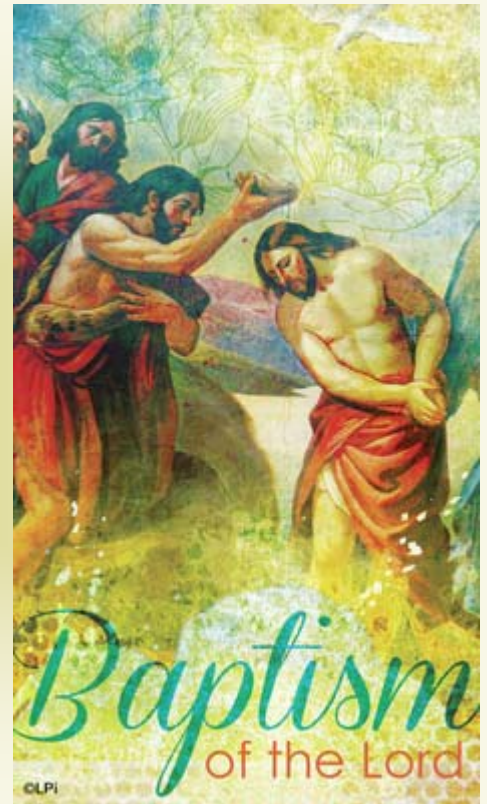
THE PARISH OF ST. CECILIA ~ ST. GABRIEL

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

January 12, 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

SATURDAY **January 11, 2020**
 4 PM Chuck Foster
 (Judy, Children & Grandchildren)

SUNDAY **January 12, 2020**
 9 AM Joan R. McGirr
 (Diane Handley)

SATURDAY **January 18, 2020**
 4 PM O'Connor Family
 (Cathy Sheehan)

SUNDAY **January 19, 2020**
 9 AM Rolando Romero
 (Lynn Cruz)

SAINT CECILIA CHURCH MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY **January 11, 2020**
 5:30 PM Alfred DeCarlo Sr., & Jr.
 (Mary DeCarlo)

SUNDAY **January 12, 2019**
 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)

MONDAY **January 13, 2020** *St. Hilary*
 7:30 AM Larry Schmidt
 (Mary DeCarlo)

TUESDAY **January 14, 2020**
 7:30 AM Howard Donnelly
 (Leonard, Susan & Lora)

WEDNESDAY **January 15, 2020**
 7:30 AM Marina Marconi
 (Lucia Cantarini)

THURSDAY **January 16, 2020**
 7:30 AM Hillary Curley
 (The Cleary Family)

FRIDAY **January 17, 2020** *St. Anthony, Abbot*
 7:30 AM For the Parish

SATURDAY **January 18, 2020**
 5:30 PM Alfred DeCarlo Jr.
 (Mary DeCarlo)

SUNDAY **January 19, 2019**
 7:30 AM Carmel Naughton
 (Felicia Miller)

9 AM Sandra Lowe & Frank Franko
 (Gina & Charlie Denner)

11:15 AM Bobby Santarsiero
 (Jeane Silio)

Ordinary Time

This weekend we celebrate the Baptism of Our Lord, which officially marks the end of the Christmas season. With the end of the Christmas season we enter the beginning of what's called Ordinary Time. The defining characteristic of the liturgical season of Ordinary Time seems to be that it's not Advent or Lent and it's not the Christmas or Easter Seasons. So in a sense it's just, well, ordinary.

There's something fitting, however, that the Feast of Christ's Baptism leads into Ordinary Time. In the early centuries of the Church many of the great bishop-theologians of that period (whom we call the Church Fathers) spent a lot of time reflecting on the meaning of Christ's baptism. They had a very strong understanding as to why we need baptism. But they wondered why, if Jesus is God, He underwent baptism. Their insight was that while the waters of baptism sanctify us, Christ's baptism sanctified the waters. By His baptism, the waters of baptism receive their power to cleanse us from original sin, to fill us with divine life & grace, and to make us members of the Church. In other words, the baptismal water didn't change Christ. Christ changed the baptismal water.

So, what does this have to do with Ordinary Time? Well, just as Christ transformed the waters of baptism by being baptized, He also changed the nature of time by living in it. God is eternal - He is not subject to time but is the creator of time. By becoming man, however, Our Lord experienced life in time. Just as His touching the baptismal water sanctified the water, His "touching" of time has the effect of sanctifying time. The British historian Arnold Toynbee famously described history as "just one [darned] thing after another." But that's not how we should think of life in time if we believe in the Incarnation. God revealed Himself to us in history. He lived in history and made it possible to become holy in history - even in the otherwise tedious moments when we're running errands or sitting in the waiting room of the doctor's office. When we live our everyday lives united to Christ in grace, if we strive to be His faithful followers even in the little things we do, we grow in likeness to Him and become holy.

So as we emerge from the festive season of Christmas we remember that it is in Ordinary Time that we spend most of our days with Christ. With the help of His grace, the little moments of our lives to which we never give a second thought become opportunities to participate in our own sanctification. And that what makes life in Ordinary Time so extraordinary.

In Christ,
 Fr. John



Please notice our new 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 light a candle and say a prayer.

Pray for

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 Cocco, Steven Deccicco, 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, Alice Carella, Arnold Mauer, Paul Haidar.....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 Frank Franko and Warija Kowalski.

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.

Knights of Columbus Council #5833 is sponsoring our annual Basketball Free Throw Championship.
 All boys and girls, ages 9-14 (as of January 1, 2020), are eligible to participate and will compete in their respective age division.

Date: Saturday, January 25, 2020
Time: 3:00 pm (Registration begins at 2:30 pm)
Location: Trinity Catholic High School Gym
 926 Newfield Avenue, Stamford, CT 06905
Registration: KofC5833@gmail.com

All contestants on the local level are recognized for their participation in the event. Participants are required to furnish proof of age and written parental consent. For entry forms or additional information contact us at KofC5833@gmail.com.


The Knights of Columbus Free Throw Championship is sponsored annually, with winners progressing through local, district, and state competitions. International champions are announced by the K of C international headquarters based on scores from the state-level competitions. Last year, approximately 120,000 children participated in more than 3,600 local competitions.

Cardinal Kung Academy, a division of Trinity Catholic High School, is a diocesan high school offering a rigorous all-honors program with a classical pedagogy.
 Come meet the teachers and experience the difference of a classical high school education at our OPEN HOUSE on January 27th, 6:30pm – 8:30 pm at 948 Newfield Avenue, Stamford (in St. Gabriel Church building.)
 Now accepting applications for all grades for the 2020-2021 academic year. To schedule a visit or shadow day, contact 203-329-8296, CardinalKungAcademy@gmail.com or visit www.cardinalkungacademy.org

St. Cecilia - St. Gabriel Parish Coffee Hour

Please join us for coffee and some treats on *January 19th after the 9AM Mass at St. Gabriel in the Church Hall.*

Those attending St. Cecilia 9AM Mass, please come too!



Save the Date! Saturday February 22nd! St. Cecilia - St. Gabriel Mardi Gras Celebration!
 Details to follow soon!





Music Notes Attention Singers!

Please see our Music Director Michele, email 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!

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

Class as usual Jan. 12th and 14th,
NO Classes on Jan. 19th and 21st.
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 or 203-329-2707



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



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 15 Bags to the food bank 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.

Online Giving

*Please consider On-line Giving in 2020
Register at 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.*

Meetings/Activities Schedule

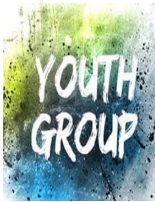
- Mon. 1/13 7pm Lectio Divina - Parish Center Conf. Rm.
- Mon. 1/13 7:30pm Knights of Columbus 5833 - MH
- Tues. 1/14 12-3pm Senior Circle - St. Gabriel Church Hall
- Tues. 1/14 1-3pm Veteran's Project - Parish Center Sun Rm.
- Tues. 1/14 7:30pm - AA - St. Gabriel Hall
- Wed. 1/15 7:30-9pm Eucharistic Adoration & Confession - St. Cecilia Church
- Wed. 1/15 10am Handcraft Group - Parish Center Sun Rm.
- Thurs. 1/16 7pm AA - MH
- Thurs. 1/16 7:15pm Bible Study - St. Gabriel Hall
- Fri. 1/17 9:15am Bible Study - St. Gabriel Hall
- Sat. 1/18 6:45am Men's Faith Gathering - St. Gabriel Hall



2019 Annual Catholic Appeal Update
Saint Gabriel, Stamford raised 168 gifts worth \$55,167 from 156 donors bringing the parish to 96.78% of its \$57,000 goal.

Saint Cecilia, Stamford raised 241 gifts worth \$85,775 from 201 donors bringing the parish to 81.69% of its \$105,000 goal.

Thank you for your generosity.



STAMFORD CATHOLIC YOUTH GROUP

Upcoming meeting dates and locations:
Middle School:1/17/20 – 7 to 8:30pm at St. Gabriel Church;
High School:1/24/20 – 7 to 9:00pm at St. Bridget 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, and are also posted at <http://stcecilia-stgabriel.org>. Contact Fr. Joseph Gill at frjosephgill@gmail.com, (203) 324-1553, Gina Denner (203) 968-6388 (Middle School), or Diane McNamara (203) 329-0866 (High School) for more info.

Saturday Morning Faith Gathering for Men

Join us every Saturday morning from 6:45 am to 8:15 am in the St Gabriel Church Hall – 6:45 coffee & bagel; 7:00 opening prayer; 7:20 roundtable discussion; 8:10 closing prayer.

The St Cecilia-St Gabriel Men’s Ministry seeks to help men better know Jesus Christ in order to imitate Him. This community of faithful men meets weekly to pray, meditate on sacred scripture and reflect on its application in our lives. Through the grace of the Holy Spirit we seek to be a light that lead our families, our friends and our neighbors to Christ.

Contact Anthony Pramberger 203-968-1481 or Bill Nagle 203-570-2593, billnagle@hotmail.com for more information, join our mailing list or just show up.



“BAPTISM ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION” RSVPs DUE 1/18/20

By now, all parents with children baptized in 2019 or celebrating a baptism anniversary from 2014 and 2015, should have received an invitation to our first St. Cecilia-St. Gabriel “Baptism Anniversary Celebration.” Please be sure to send back your RSVP postcard by 1/18/20 letting us know whether you’ll be joining us. You can also RSVP by email at baptismcelebration@gmail.com.

All parishioners are welcome on 2/2/20, as we gather these families at St. Cecilia Church for the 11:15am mass, during which there will be a special blessing of all the children attending. Mass will be followed by a brunch reception in McDermott Hall. Please feel free 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 or call (203) 968-6388.

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.

Camp Veritas 2020

Play Hard. Pray Hard.

It’s that time of year again ... time to sign-up for Camp Veritas! Camp Veritas is a week-long Catholic sleep-away camp near Newburgh, NY and every year, we send dozens of our kids to have the best week of their lives! It has all the great camp activities: sports, swimming, boating, hiking, rock climbing, zip-lines, go-karts, more sports...and it also has daily Adoration, Rosary, Mass, dynamic talks, lively praise music...it is a life-changing encounter with God along with being the most fun week of the year! All kids in grades 6-12 are invited to go. There is a week in July and another one in August. You can find out more information at www.campveritas.org. Sign-up today, the weeks fill up fast!

As in years past, Fr. Joseph Gill will be attending and is able to offer a \$200 scholarship to kids from the Stamford Catholic Youth Group! That means that a week at Camp Veritas costs only \$200 total - what a deal! In order to be eligible for the scholarship, kids must attend youth group regularly and attend Mass weekly - no exceptions! To obtain the discount, simply register online, pay the \$100 deposit, and then contact Fr. Joseph at frjosephgill@gmail.com. To speak with someone directly, call Gina Denner at (203) 968-6388. Volunteers are needed, must be at least 18 years old, and attend for free!

Camp Veritas - The memories will last all year ... but the Relationship? All Eternity.

Parish Senior Circle

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

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.

Email “hotline” for parishioners to provide feedback and ask questions: Madeleineterenzio@gmail.com

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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.

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 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 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!