

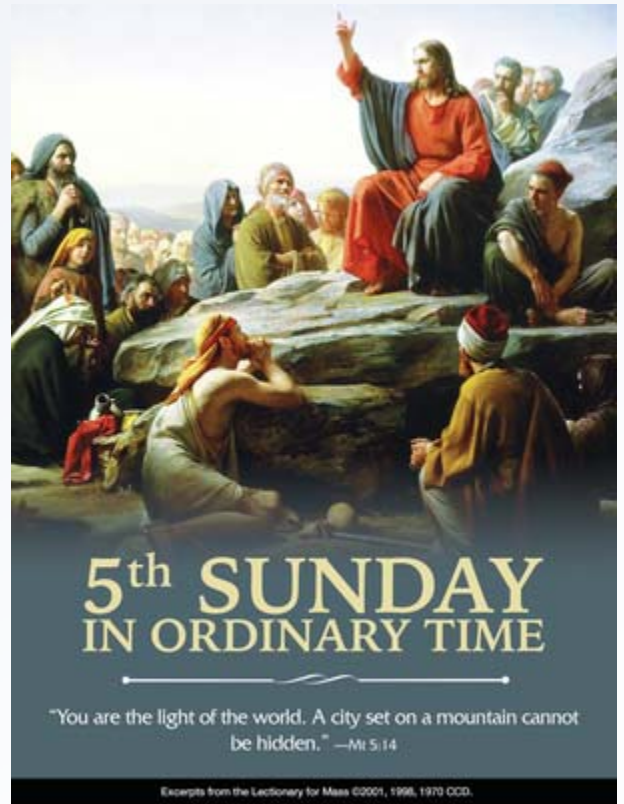
THE PARISH OF ST. CECILIA ~ ST. GABRIEL

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

February 9, 2020

Rev. John P. Connaughton, Pastor

Rev. Mariusz M. Olbrys, Parochial Vicar
Deacon Larry Buzzeo
Seminarist Anh Vu



Fr. John Connaughton, Pastor
FrConnaughton@diobpt.org

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

Deacon Larry Buzzeo
Lbuz@optonline.net

Seminarist 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 4 PM	February 8, 2020 Paul Sheehan (His Family)
SUNDAY 9 AM	February 9, 2020 Dottie Castignetti (Dottie & Dennis Dahm)
SATURDAY 4 PM	February 15, 2020 Stephanie & Michael Vagnone (Daughter Lorri Tamburro)
SUNDAY 9 AM	February 16, 2020 Maurizio Imbrogno & Family (Rocco & Carmela Longo)

SAINT CECILIA CHURCH MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY 5:30 PM	February 8, 2020 Mary Somers (Paul & Tina Salvatore & Family)
SUNDAY 7:30 AM	February 9, 2020 Joseph Butler (Cathy Sheehan)
9 AM	Michael Vagnone (Family)
11:15 AM	Gambino Family (Laura Croft)
MONDAY 7:30 AM	February 10, 2020 <i>Saint Scholastica</i> For the Parish
TUESDAY 7:30 AM	February 11, 2020 <i>Our Lady of Lourdes</i> Edward Barosky Jr. (Bertha Barosky)
WEDNESDAY 7:30 AM	February 12, 2020 For the Parish
THURSDAY 7:30 AM	February 13, 2020 Marie Duffy (Agnes Cannon)
FRIDAY 7:30 AM	February 14, 2020 Maria Tevolini (Phyllis Altamura)
SATURDAY 5:30 PM	February 15, 2020 Theodore D'Aloia (Maria & Frank DeCostanzo)
SUNDAY 7:30 AM	February 16, 2020 For the Parish
9 AM	Chester Forman Sr. (Paul & Tina Salvatore & Family)
11:15 AM	Angelo & Bianca Coppola (Angiolina Coppola)

Super Bowl Ads 2020

The one and only NFL game I watched in its entirety this past season was last weekend's Super Bowl. Although I do like football, the Super Bowl has morphed from a game into a high liturgy of American consumerism. We see it in the emphasis that is placed on the commercials featured during the game. On a side note, one thing I noticed this year was that there were a large number of advertisements that tried to promote messages of female dignity, while the halftime show just seemed to objectify its otherwise obviously talented female performers – an unfortunate mixed message.

While watching the game, I was struck by two commercials in particular. The first was a Google ad in which you hear a grieving widower sharing memories of his wife, such as her love of Alaska and her hatred for the mustache he had as a young man. The man wasn't sharing these things with a person, but with Google, asking the search engine to save these memories so that he wouldn't forget them. The commercial effectively tugs on the heartstrings, but I think the concept of the ad is actually sadder than its creators realize. If one believes that there is nothing after death, then our memories of those who have died end up being all that's left of them. This can lead to great anxiety, for the dimming of our mental faculties as we age cannot but cause us to forget certain things about the most important relationships we enjoyed during our lifetimes. To forget is thus to let our loved ones slip away into oblivion, and the gentleman in the commercial who is mourning the loss of his wife seems to be using Google to help him keep that from happening. But as Catholics, we believe that those who have experienced death do not live on only in our memories. The resurrection of Christ reveals to us that death is not the end of our existence, but that we continue to exist as ourselves even after death. That means that those relationships that we cherished in this life endure, despite our loss of memory, and that we live in hope of reunion with our loved ones in the light of heaven.

The other notable commercial was for the insurance company, NY Life. This advertisement gave an exposition on the four Greek words for love – *philia*, *storge*, *eros*, and *agape* – that were famously part of a lecture by C.S. Lewis called *The Four Loves*. *Philia* describes the love that is the affection that grows from friendship. *Storge* is the love that one has for family relations. *Eros* is love that desires to receive the other. *Agape* is the most admirable form of love, requiring courage and sacrifice, and is expressed in self-gift. In his 2005 encyclical *Deus Caritas Est* (God is Love), Pope Benedict XVI wrote that the love of God is the fullness of all of these aspects of love, especially *eros* and *agape*. God desires us (*eros*) and He gives Himself completely to us (*agape*). The NY Life ad was an unexpected encounter with the sublime in the midst of much that was depressingly banal.

In Christ
Fr. John



**Baptism Anniversary Celebration
Mass and Reception, February 2, 2020**

Thank you to all the families who participated.



Blessing of the Candles



1st Baptism Anniversary



5 Year Baptism Anniversary



Thanks especially to Gina and Charlie Denner and their team of volunteers!



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 Cocomo, Steven Decicco, 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 Ciccarelli, Mark Mullen, Kim Puglia, George Uzwiak, Fritz Hirsch, Alice Carella, Kimberley Pracilio, Marilyn Ritchie, Leon Zavos, Rose Sorbo Baroskyall 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.

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.



Veritas

Catholic Network

A representative from Veritas Catholic Network will be speaking at all masses this weekend (Feb. 8th & 9th) to share exciting details about our local EWTN affiliate

Catholic radio station: 1350AM WNLK. More information is available at: www.veritascatholic.com.



Music Notes: The music program is growing and why not be a part of it. The choir is accepting new members and will be preparing for weekly Mass, Lent, and Easter. Please contact Michele for more information. The Choir has also resumed Tuesday evening rehearsals in preparation for the Easter Season. When you sing, you pray twice.

We would love to have you!

Michele Schule, our Music Director, can be reached at micheleschule@gmail.com, or call the rectory at 203-322-1562

**St. Cecilia - St. Gabriel Parish
Mardi Gras Celebration!
Saturday February 22nd!**



at St. Gabriel Church Hall after the 4pm Mass.
Tickets will be sold after Masses.
\$20. adults, Children 12 & under no charge.
Food, friends and fun!
Any questions call Tess at 203-570-3109.
Limited availability - get your tickets asap!



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 25 bags to St. Mary's 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.	2/10	7pm Lectio Divina - Parish Center Sun Rm
Mon.	2/10	7:30pm Knights of Columbus - MH
Tues.	2/11	12-3pm Senior Circle - St. Gabriel Church Hall
Tues.	2/11	1-3pm Veteran's Project - Parish Center Sun Rm.
Tues.	2/11	7:30pm - AA - St. Gabriel Hall
Tues.	2/11	7-8:30pm Choir Rehearsal at St. Cecilia Church
Wed.	2/12	7:30-9pm Eucharistic Adoration & Confession St. Cecilia Church
Wed.	2/12	10am Handcraft Group - Parish Center Sun Rm.
Thurs.	2/13	7pm AA - MH
Thurs.	2/13	7:15pm Bible Study - St. Gabriel Hall
Fri.	2/14	9:15am Bible Study - St. Gabriel Hall
Sat.	2/15	6:45am Saturday Morning Faith Gathering for Men - St. Gabriel Hall
Sun.	2/16	10:30am Choir Rehearsal -St. Cecilia Church

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION/FAITH FORMATION

Classes continue Feb. 9th & 11th.

No classes Feb. 16th & 18th.

Classes resume Sun. Feb. 23rd & Tues. Feb 25th.

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

**St. Cecilia - St. Gabriel
Offertory Totals**

February 2, 2020

Weekly Offering: \$8,440

Monthly Offering: \$2,849

Online Giving Offering: \$10,598

Thank you for your generosity.



**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**

Email "hotline" for parishioners to provide feedback and ask questions:
Madeleinerenzio@gmail.com

By last weekend you should have received your **2019 Offertory Contribution Statements** if your contribution totals were over \$250. If you were originally a St. Gabriel Parishioner you may receive 2 statements, one from January 1 - June 30, 2019 from St. Gabriel Parish, and a second, which will include contributions to St. Cecilia - St. Gabriel Parish from July 1 - December 31, 2019.

If you have any questions please don't hesitate to call the parish office at 203-322-1562.

STAMFORD CATHOLIC YOUTH GROUP



Upcoming meeting dates and locations are:
Middle School: 2/14/20 and 2/28/20
– 7 to 8:30pm at St. Gabriel Church;
High School: 2/21/20 – 7 to 9:00pm at St. Bridget Church

All 6th - 12th grade youth from any parish are welcome! Meeting/special event dates can be found on flyers at the entrances to St. Cecilia and St. Gabriel Churches, and 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.



Knights of Columbus Council # 5833 will be selling raffle tickets at Saint Cecilia on February 8th & 9th. (last weekend at St. Gabriel) Tickets are \$10 and cash prizes range from \$200 to \$5,000. The Connecticut State Council annual Raffle will take place on Friday, April 17, 2020. Please support your local Council by purchasing a ticket. Good Luck!

Knights of Columbus Connecticut State Council Raffle Prizes:

- | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| 1st Prize: \$5,000 | 2nd Prize: \$3,500 |
| 3rd Prize: \$2,000 | 4th Prize: \$1,500 |
| 5th Prize: \$1,000 | 6th Prize: \$600 |
| 7th Prize: \$500 | 8th Prize: \$400 |
| 9th Prize: \$300 | 10th Prize: \$200 |

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.



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

Parish Senior Circle

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.

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 leads 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.

Camp Veritas 2020

Camp Veritas is filling up fast! It's a one week sleep-away pilgrimage experience for teens going into 7th grade through 12th grade, near Newburgh, NY. The recipe is play-and-pray with a full immersion in the Catholic Faith through sacraments and activities. Camp Veritas provides a journey to Christ and a deeper understanding of the Catholic faith through an intense fellowship immersion with other youth. It also has all the great camp activities: sports, swimming, boating, hiking, rock climbing, zip-lines, go-karts, etc., along with 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! There is a week in July and one in August. You can find out more at www.campveritas.org. Once again, Fr. Joseph Gill will be attending and is able to offer a \$200 scholarship to kids from the Stamford Catholic Youth Group! That means a week at Camp Veritas will cost only \$200. To be eligible for the scholarship, kids must attend youth group regularly and Mass weekly - no exceptions! To request the discount, 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 - Play Hard. Pray Hard!

Our next "Two Thousand Hail Marys" will be on Saturday, March 7, 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.

Thursday evenings at 7:15 p.m. & repeated on Friday mornings 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.

Spanish Speaking Volunteers needed!

We need 2-4 bilingual volunteers that can commit to our Monthly Community Outreach program to help sort and give out Pampers to the mothers in need.

The Community Outreach Program runs twice a month on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month from 9-2 pm . Please call and speak with Laila Bravo 203.857.0088 for more information.



Eucharistic Adoration with Benediction every Wednesday night in the Church of St. Cecilia from 7:30-9pm with confession available. Please come to spend time with the Lord for as little or as long as you like.



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 February, we will be highlighting two items on our list - small board games and deodorant. 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

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!

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