

THE PARISH OF ST. CECILIA ~ ST. GABRIEL

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
Saint Cecilia **Saint Gabriel**

1184 Newfield Ave.

914 Newfield Ave.

Stamford, CT 06905

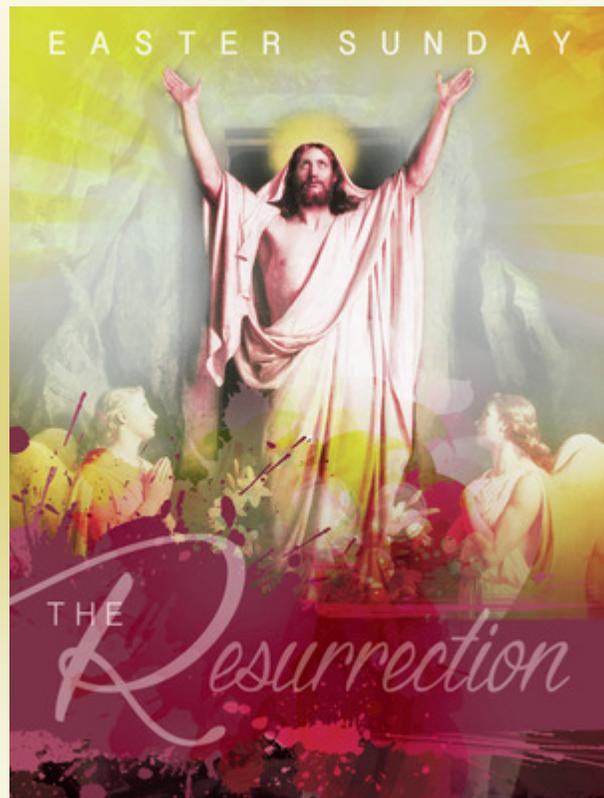
April 12, 2020

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, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Maryanne Didelot, Director of Religious Education

DRE@stcecilia-stgabriel.org

203-322-1562

Gina DeVito, Parish Office Manager

Office@stcecilia-stgabriel.org

203-322-1562

Amanda Day, Assistant Parish Office Manager

Amanda.Day@stcecilia-stgabriel.org

203-322-1562

Michele Schule, Organist and Music Director

Mschule@stcecilia-stgabriel.org

or call the parish office 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

PLEASE SEE TEMPORARY SCHEDULE INSIDE MASS SCHEDULE

Daily Mass

7:30 a.m. at St. Cecilia

Rosary Daily—prior to the 7:30 a.m. Mass

Novena to Our Lady of the Miraculous

Medal—Mondays following the 7:30 a.m. Mass

Eucharistic Adoration

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

CONFESSIONS at St. Gabriel

Saturday 3 p.m. to 3:50 p.m.

Saturday Vigil Masses

4:00 p.m. at St. Gabriel

5:30 p.m. at St. Cecilia

Sunday Masses

7:30 a.m. at St. Cecilia (no music)

9:00 a.m. at St. Gabriel (no music)

9:00 a.m. at St. Cecilia

11:15 a.m. at St. Cecilia

BAPTISMS: Sundays following 11:15 a.m. 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: St. Gabriel or St. Cecilia upon request of the family.

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

SAINT GABRIEL CHURCH MASS INTENTIONS**EASTER SUNDAY****SUNDAY**
9 AM**April 12, 2020**
For the Parish**SATURDAY****April 18, 2020**
Robert Francis Jr.
(Salvino Family)**SUNDAY****April 19, 2020**
Cortese, Horn, Romano & Zwart Families
(Lois & Russ Serino)**SAINT CECILIA CHURCH MASS INTENTIONS****SOLEMN EASTER VIGIL****SATURDAY**
8 PM**April 11, 2020**
For the Parish**EASTER SUNDAY****SUNDAY**
7:30 AM
9 AM
11:15 AM**April 12, 2020**
For the Parish
For the Parish
For the Parish**MONDAY**
7:30 AM**April 13, 2020**
Dominick DePreta
(Patricia Saxe)**TUESDAY**
7:30 AM**April 14, 2020**
Francis McGuinness
(Marjorie McGuinness)**WEDNESDAY**
7:30 AM**April 15, 2020**
Meghan Butler
(Her Family)**THURSDAY**
7:30 AM**April 16, 2020**
John Joe Masterson
(Chris Quinn & Family)**FRIDAY**
7:30 AM**April 17, 2020**
Dylan Joseph Pape (30th Birthday)
(His Family)**SATURDAY**
8 PM**April 18, 2020**
Weiss & Lauren Families
(The Trefry Family)**SUNDAY**
7:30 AM**April 19, 2020**
Denise Sheehan (LIVING)
(Cathy Sheehan)

9 AM

Mary Somers
(MaryEllen & Rob Munro)

11:15 AM

Peter Cicarelli & Family
(Family)

**All Masses will be said privately for the above intentions
by Fr. John and Fr. Mariusz
Please go to our website for our
Sunday Mass with Fr. John**

Easter

Below is a text from a 2nd century homily that is a reflection on Our Lord's descent into hell after His death on the cross. He goes there to find Adam and Eve to proclaim to them the gospel and to reveal the fulfillment of God's plan for them and their descendants. On this holiest of days, may it fill you with joyful gratitude. On behalf of Fr. Mariusz and the parish staff, I wish a blessed Easter to you all.

"Something strange is happening - there is a great silence on earth today, a great silence and stillness. The whole earth keeps silence because the King is asleep. The earth trembled and is still because God has fallen asleep in the flesh and he has raised up all who have slept ever since the world began. God has died in the flesh and hell trembles with fear.

He has gone to search for our first parent, as for a lost sheep. Greatly desiring to visit those who live in darkness and in the shadow of death, he has gone to free from sorrow the captives Adam and Eve, he who is both God and the son of Eve. The Lord approached them bearing the cross, the weapon that had won him the victory. At the sight of him Adam, the first man he had created, struck his breast in terror and cried out to everyone: "My Lord be with you all." Christ answered him: "And with your spirit." He took him by the hand and raised him up, saying: "Awake, O sleeper, and rise from the dead, and Christ will give you light."

I am your God, who for your sake have become your son. Out of love for you and for your descendants I now by my own authority command all who are held in bondage to come forth, all who are in darkness to be enlightened, all who are sleeping to arise. I order you, O sleeper, to awake. I did not create you to be held a prisoner in hell.

Rise from the dead, for I am the life of the dead. Rise up, work of my hands, you who were created in my image. Rise, let us leave this place, for you are in me and I am in you; together we form only one person and we cannot be separated. For your sake I, your God, became your son; I, the Lord, took the form of a slave; I, whose home is above the heavens, descended to the earth and beneath the earth. For your sake, for the sake of man, I became like a man without help, free among the dead. For the sake of you, who left a garden, I was betrayed to the Jews in a garden, and I was crucified in a garden.

See on my face the spittle I received in order to restore to you the life I once breathed into you. See there the marks of the blows I received in order to refashion your warped nature in my image. On my back see the marks of the scourging I endured to remove the burden of sin that weighs upon your back. See my hands, nailed firmly to a tree, for you who once wickedly stretched out your hand to a tree.

Continued.....

I slept on the cross and a sword pierced my side for you who slept in paradise and brought forth Eve from your side. My side has healed the pain in yours. My sleep will rouse you from your sleep in hell. The sword that pierced me has sheathed the sword that was turned against you.

Rise, let us leave this place. The enemy led you out of the earthly paradise. I will not restore you to that paradise, but I will enthrone you in heaven. I forbade you the tree that was only a symbol of life, but see, I who am life myself am now one with you. I appointed cherubim to guard you as slaves are guarded, but now I make them worship you as God. The throne formed by cherubim awaits you, its bearers swift and eager. The bridal chamber is adorned, the banquet is ready, the eternal dwelling places are prepared, the treasure houses of all good things lie open. The kingdom of heaven has been prepared for you from all eternity."

In Christ,
Fr. John



Week of April 11, 2020
St. Cecilia Church
Tabernacle Lamp shines for
Frank McGuinness
by Marjorie McGuinness

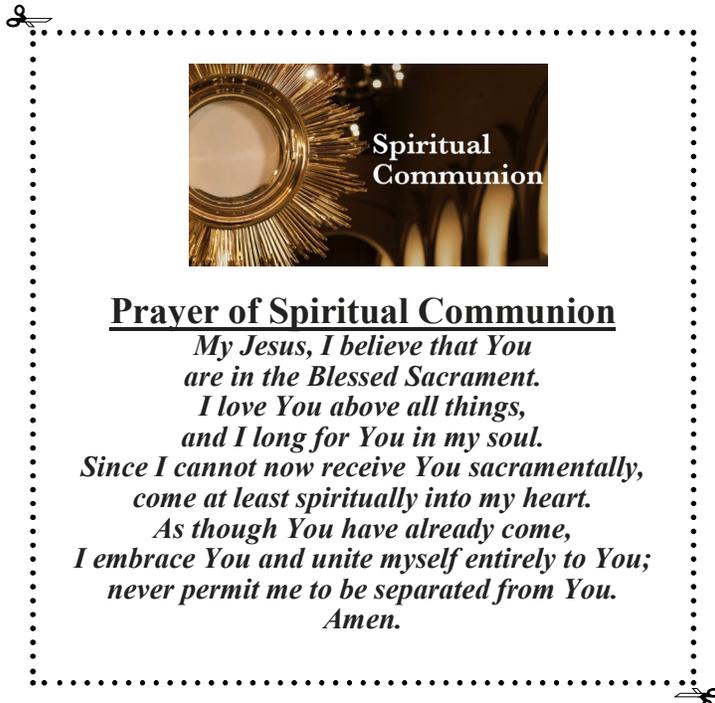


The sick and their caregivers. Sal Bonina, Michael Pratt, Nick Pensiero, Ken Byxbee, Conor Ehring, Mary Brundage, Matt Marshall, William Perkins, Tricia Saxe Cocco, Steven Deccicco, Richard Negyesi, Ed Adams, Msgr. Powers, Wendy Lenard, Edward Cioffi, Barbara Cebula, Columbia Smith, and Kaye Gill, Baby 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, Kim Puglia, George Uzwiak, Alice Carella, Kimberley Pracilio, Marilyn Ritchie, Leon Zavos, Rose Sorbo Barosky, Deirdre, John Cullen, Steven Farrell, Joseph Freeth, Dorothy Tierney, Italia Malagisi, Owen Ryan, Michael Connole, Ginny Woolston, Joseph Cullen, Mark Mones, Diane Heach, 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.

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

PRAYERS FOR THOSE IN THE 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. DeVaglio, Sgt. Taylor A. Ritchie, FN Ellie Fratturo, Maj. Michael J. Souza, Jack H. Whitney, Christopher Ciacciarella, SA Joshua M. Hicks, SR Allison McNamara, 2Lt. James Arpaio.



Spiritual Communion

Prayer of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are in the Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I long for You in my soul. Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. As though You have already come, I embrace You and unite myself entirely to You; never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION/FAITH FORMATION

No Religious Education Classes until Public School Resumes. As of now Rel Ed. classes are suspended until further notice. Confirmation Retreat originally scheduled for April 2nd has been cancelled.

First Holy Communion students and Confirmation students should have been notified regarding home preparation for the Sacraments.

If not PLEASE contact our DRE, Maryanne Didelot at DRE@stcecilia-stgabriel.org or 203-322-1562

Tune in to Veritas Catholic Network

our local EWTN affiliate Catholic radio station: 1350AM WNLK.

More information is available at www.veritascatholic.com.



St. Cecilia - St. Gabriel Parish
Schedule during Suspension of Masses:

The Church of St. Cecilia will be open for personal prayer at these times:

- Monday-Friday 7am-8pm
(please note that on Wednesdays the church will close at 9pm)
- Saturday-Sunday 7am-6pm

The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed for personal devotion at the following times:

- Monday-Friday: 12-1pm, 7-8pm
(please note that on Wednesdays, evening adoration is from 7:30-9pm)
- Saturday: 4-6pm
- Sunday: 8am-12noon

Confession Schedule:

- Wednesdays: 7:30-9pm
- Saturdays: 4-6pm
- Sundays: 10am-12noon



Music Notes:
Choir practice and
Choir singing at Mass
has been temporarily suspended.
Pray we will be back soon!

Michele Schule, our Music Director, can be reached at MSchule@stcecilia-stgabriel.org or call the Parish Office at 203-322-1562.



S.O.M.E Please consider a weekly contribution of non-perishable food. S.O.M.E. (So Others May Eat) Baskets are at the MAIN ENTRANCE OF THE CHURCH. Please use strong reusable bags if possible and **please NO GLASS** jars. Please also, limit the bags and boxes of rice to 5lb.

bags. 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 10 Bags to the Wilson Food Pantry last week. THANK YOU for your responsible stewardship. *Occasionally we need additional drivers. If you are interested in offering some of your time and talent to these ongoing activities please contact Bob Violette 203-357-1481 or John Cullen 203-322-1947. Thank you.*

St. Cecilia - St. Gabriel Parish
Offertory Totals

April 5, 2020

*We are unable to post our Offertory totals due to early bulletin deadlines.
We will post them next week.*

Many thanks to those of you who have recently signed up for Online Giving and to those who have mailed in your offertory envelopes. Your continued support is needed and greatly appreciated.

Online  **Giving**

Please consider Online Giving!
Register at www.osvonlinegiving.com/1522/

If you have been thinking about Online Giving, now is the perfect time. Our Church relies on your support. 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.

Thank you!
Stay Healthy!

Meetings/Activities Schedule

All Parish Meetings Suspended
Until Further Notice.

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



The 2021 Mass book will open on June 1, 2020. Please know that Masses are still available for 2020.



STAMFORD CATHOLIC YOUTH GROUP

All 6th - 12th grade youth are welcome! For additional meeting and special event dates, look for 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.

Please look for text or email updates from Fr. Joseph Gill

Let's stay connected!
Please visit our website daily for Fr. John's Reflections, Sunday Mass, and most current updates.

www.stcecilia-stgabriel.org

Coronavirus resources & information

can be found by visiting the Diocese of Bridgeport website at www.bridgeportdiocese.org.



Camp Veritas 2020



Camp Veritas is filling up quickly!

All 7th through 12th grade youth are invited to join us for the best Catholic summer camp ever! Located near Newburgh, NY, it's a week of amazing camp activities (sports, boating, swimming, hiking, zip-lines, rock climbing, go-karts, and more!) along with a profound week of encounter with Jesus Christ (daily Mass, Rosary, Adoration, dynamic talks). Once again, Fr. Joseph Gill will be attending and is offering a \$200 scholarship to kids from the Stamford Catholic Youth Group! That means a week at Camp Veritas can cost as little as \$200. *To be eligible for the scholarship, kids must attend youth group regularly and Mass weekly - no exceptions! Please sign up by April 1st to receive the \$200 scholarship, by going to www.campveritas.org.*

There's a week in July and one in August.

Contact Fr. Joseph at frjosephgill@gmail.com to request the discount, or 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!



PURA VIDA "FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN" A parish community event for all ages

Join the St. Cecilia -St. Gabriel parish team as we participate in our 4th Annual Pura Vida "Feed My Starving Children" Mobile Food-Packing Event on **Saturday, 5/16 or Sunday, 5/17**. Everyone, ages 8 to 108, is welcome to participate, as age and ability appropriate tasks will be assigned. Last year, 90 parish members (31 under the age of 18!) volunteered for a 2 hour shift over that weekend, which resulted in **257,000** meals packed - that's enough food to feed **703 STARVING CHILDREN FOR AN ENTIRE YEAR!**

"Feed My Starving Children" (FMSC) is an amazing organization and their methods and manna packs are highly effective in combatting world hunger, but their mission would be impossible without the help of many volunteers. This event is a great opportunity for a whole family, or a group of teen friends to do some community service for a very worthy cause, while having fun doing it! But, if you can't join us to pack meals, please consider making a donation to do your part to feed starving children. The FMSC organization has consistently received the highest awards for ensuring that over 90% of all donations go directly toward feeding kids in need.

If you already know that you would like to volunteer, or make a donation, write to us at stceciliastgabrielcare@gmail.com, or phone Gina Denner at (203) 968-6388 or Madeleine Terenzio at (203) 962-4373. Additional details are posted on church bulletin boards. Watch for details on how to register for the "St. Cecilia-St. Gabriel Cares" team in future bulletins.

***Note: "Pura Vida for Children"** is the local non-profit organization sponsoring the annual event at New Canaan HS, and is responsible for fund-raising to reach the required goal of \$63,000 to cover the cost of the food to be packed at the event. Contributions are just as important as volunteer food-packing time! Checks submitted should be written out to "Pura Vida-Feed My Starving Children" for our weekend and team to get credit. Read more about the Pura Vida organization by going to www.puravidaforchildren.org.

SAVE THE DATE

Fundraising day trip sponsored by The 2000 Hail Mary's Group of St. Cecilia—St. Gabriel Parish.



A Sights and Sounds Production

When: Saturday, December 12, 2020

Where: Lancaster, PA

Fee: \$150/person

includes ticket, bus fare & family style dinner

Make your reservation now as seats are limited!

For questions and inquiries, please call

Tess: (203) 570 - 3109 or

Lynn: (347) 675 - 7287

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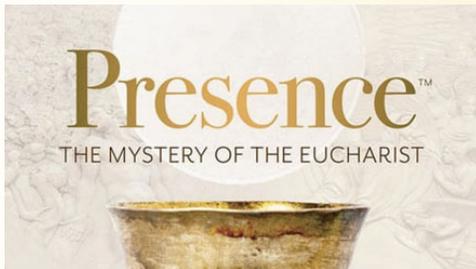
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Select "I Belong to a Parish or Organization"

Find our parish by name, zip, or parish code

Enter your email - and you're in!

This Weeks Feature from FORMED



Although the Eucharist appears to be simple bread and wine, it is actually the "source and summit" of the Christian life. The Mystery of the Eucharist explores the truth and beauty of Christ's real presence in the Eucharist, from its origins in Sacred Scripture, to its profound role in the life of the Church and her members. It is the crescendo of the entire story of salvation. Take time and sign into FORMED to view the series on PRESENCE, be ready to receive Our Lord totally in His Presence when our church is reopened to receive Him into our bodies.



For the Kids:

Sign into FORMED see Brother Francis as he helps children up to 8 years old understand how to live a joy-filled Catholic life.

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 April, we will be highlighting baby wipes and diapers which are always in great demand. Other items on our list are shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, hair brushes, socks for children and adults, small board games. 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) 561-6222



St. Cecilia – St. Gabriel Bible Study

Bible study has been canceled until further notice, but Fr. Dave Pivonka, TOR, is offering his **Metanoia, A Journey with Christ into Conversion**, talks **FREE online**.

His reflections encourage us to have a change of heart (Metanoia) to really **KNOW** our Lord.



Metanoia, A Journey with Christ into Conversion, is beautifully filmed on location in the Holy Land. Each episode explores areas of life where conversion is so often necessary.

Lent is a great time to experience Metanoia!

Join us for a ZOOM meeting.

IF YOU'D LIKE TO DO **A TEST LOG IN**,

Contact VickiA@optonline.net 203-561-3558.

Join Zoom Meeting <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/247559373> OR use the link below to open a free account and watch the videos on your own.

https://wildgoose.tv/programs/1-who-do-you-say-that-i-am-final_1-1af6ab

To download the free study guide go to <https://thewildgooseisloose.com/metanoia>