



May 2015

PASTOR'S MUSINGS

As I write this article on April 19, 2015 it is raining. I can't help but think of the adage 'April Showers bring May flowers!'

I am happy to announce that Dr. Caroline Salido-Barta will begin as our Parish Director of Liturgical Music on May 1, 2015. I cannot express enough our gratitude to the members of our Choirs, our Cantors and the many Musicians who have helped us over the past months. I am especially grateful to Karry Ellis who has been serving as our Acting Director!

The month of May will be a busy one in our Saint Cecilia Community. We begin the month with First Holy Communion for our Second Graders on Sunday, May 3, 2015 at 2:00pm. This will be followed on Thursday, May 7, 2015 with the School May Crowning. On Sunday, May 10, 2015, we celebrate Mother's Day and at the 9:30am Mass we will also have a May Crowning Ceremony.

I am also planning to join the Grade 8 students on their Class Trip to Washington DC on May 13-18, 2015.

The month of May will also bring the end of the PSR and School Years and Grade 8 Graduation.

On May 23, 2015, Deacon Dale Meade, who has been serving his Deacon Internship Year with us at Saint Cecilia, will be ordained to the Priesthood for the Diocese of Alexandria, Louisiana. He will return to celebrate a Mass of Thanksgiving here at Saint Cecilia on Sunday, May 31, 2015 at 9:30am.

Here in the Diocese of Columbus, Bishop Campbell will be ordaining six to the priesthood on May 30, 2015 at Saint Paul Church in Westerville. Included among them is Brian O'Connor who served as a seminarian intern here in 2012 and Sean Dooley. Sean is a friend and a member of Saint Nicholas Parish in Zanesville where I served as Pastor before coming to Saint Cecilia. He has asked me to be one of the two priests to vest him at the Ordination Mass and I am very honored.

I am writing this article the day before leaving for the Amazing Parish Conference. Twenty pastors and some of their Staff Members from our diocese will be joining pastors and Staff from parishes throughout the nation in what we hope will be a time of learning many things about ministry in this 21st Century.

For those who may not have been here since before Easter, the Blessed Sacrament is now reserved in a Tabernacle that remains in the church. This has prompted some changes. All who are able are asked to genuflect before entering their pew before Mass and when leaving the pew after Mass. The Liturgy Committee and Liturgical Ministry Coordinators are fine-tuning procedural changes for Lectors, Servers, Ministers of Holy Communion (both in church and those who bring Communion to the homebound and hospitalized). Please maintain a prayerful attitude in the church. Conversations should take place in the Gathering Space. Daily Masses are now celebrated in the church.

God's blessings!
Father Leo Connolly

MASS TIME CHANGE

Just a reminder that on Sunday, May 24, we will switch to the "summer" Mass schedule. Since during the summer people tend to want to go to earlier Masses, the last Mass will be at 11:30 a.m. instead of 12 noon. Our summer schedule has Mass times of Saturday at 5:00 p.m. and Sundays at 7:30 a.m., 9:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.



A PRAYER FOR MOTHER'S DAY

Sunday, May 10, 2015

Loving God, we thank you for giving us Mom and for the many ways she shows us your love. On this, her special day, we ask you to bless her with your joy and peace. As she cares for all of us, help her to find strength for the many challenges she faces. Help us to show our gratitude for all she does, and especially for who she is. Amen.

From the Marriage and Family Life Office Diocese of Columbus

COMMUNITY BILLBOARD

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT at Saint Cecilia continues to be in the Day Chapel. Our next time will be held on Friday and Saturday, May 1 & 2. Our special prayer intention for this adoration is for the students graduating from school this year. Please note that First Communion Rehearsal will be taking place in the church from 9:30 to 11:00 a.m.

Next month, the dates are June 5 & 6, and the intention is for all families who have suffered a loss through death, separation, or divorce. Please call Barb in the Parish Office (878-5353) if you would like to be a part of the Adoration Ministry. We would like to have at least three adorers for each hour.

EDGE for all 5th, 6th, 7th & 8th grade students...Plan on joining us on Saturday, May 2 at 6:30 p.m. in the gym for our last EDGE night of the school year. This will be a very special evening where our 8th grade students will plan and take over the night. In addition, all 5th graders are welcome to come on this night and check out all that we do at EDGE. The program is open to all students, not just St. Cecilia parishioners, so bring a friend along! We will provide dinner, games, and a ton of fun and laughter. There is no cost to attend, but a \$5 donation would be greatly appreciated to offset some of our expenses. Questions? Contact Katie Wohrle at kwohrle@saintceciliachurch.org or by calling 878-0133.

HELP SAVE A LIFE! PARTICPATE IN THE NEXT BLOOD DRIVE! In the Central Ohio area, an average of 50 people need blood each day. Unfortunately, only 5% of eligible donors will donate to help these people in need. One person can help up to three people by donating blood. Those who donate are truly life-savers! The Knights of Columbus Council 5899 will be hosting a *Blood Drive* for the Red Cross on Thursday, May 14 from 2 – 8 p.m. in Meeting Rooms A & B. A typical blood donation takes approximately an hour, with the actual donation time about 20 minutes. Why not schedule some time to give the gift of life? Donors must be at least 17, weigh at least 110 lbs and be in good health, and have identification (Red Cross Blood Donors Card, Ohio Drivers license, or a State ID).

The Knights of Columbus will be in the Gathering Space after the regular weekend Masses on May 9 & 10 to register donors and answer questions. You can also call Mark Hunter, 871-8467, to sign up to donate. Walk-up donors will also be welcomed. In addition to receiving an BOGO Columbus Zoo Pass, donors can enter a drawing for four Zoombezi Bay passes.

CONGRATULATONS TO SOME SPECIAL YOUNG PEOPLE FROM OUR PARISH! Inducted into the National Honor Society at Westland High School in April were Krista Boop, Maria Hamilton and Mary Vertullo. These students from our parish are on the Third Quarter Honor and Merit Rolls at St. Charles: *Honor Roll:* Jarrod Hay, Dennis Heil, Anthony Huffman, Brooks McCann, Ian Noonan; *Merit Roll:* Matthew Keyes, Ryan Siesel, John Wallace. Third Quarter Bishop Ready Honor Roll: *First Honors:* Danielle Hall, Shelby Tracy, Danielle Lancia, Sarah Powell, Brendan Kirby, Carly Smith. *Second Honors:* Allison Poe, Natalie Sexton, Ethan Gifford, Hailey Hejduk, Patrick Jansen, Erica Ogden, Allie Leidinger, Dawn Ritter; *Distinction List* Elizabeth Beattie, Morgan Ritterbeck, Payton Ritterbeck, Alexander Burns, Sarah Kight, Caterina Scott, Collin Siemer; Maria Bergman, Gabrielle Biliran, Kathryn Chaney, Abby Ellis, Mary Margaret Beattie, Drew Eramo, Cody Faist, Andrew Hunter, Connor Lancia, Seth Leidinger, Jonathan Mullen.

PILGRIMAGE COMING UP! A bus trip to the Our Lady of Consolation Shrine in Carey, Ohio will be Wednesday, June 24. Reservations are due this month.

LENDING A HELPING HAND May 31 is a “Fifth Sunday” and we will have our regular collection for the St. Vincent DePaul's work with the needy. Members of the Society will be at the doors after each Mass that weekend. Monies collected will support the needs of our community. We hope you will be generous.

THE 2015 BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL continues this month. The diocesan goal is \$6.2 million, and our parish goal is \$98,020.03. We ask that each and every family pray for the success of the appeal and consider a gift to it. No gift is too small. In 2014, 350 parish families made a donation to the appeal. We would really be grateful if more families take part in this year's appeal.

THE ROSARY OF ST. CECILIA

Now available for purchase are the rosaries in four choices and two sizes. All have a sterling silver connector and crucifix, you may choose from genuine stones, crystal or glass beads. The connector replicates the stained glass St. Cecilia window and the crucifix replicates the one behind the altar in our sanctuary. Prices range from \$40 - \$75. You may purchase one from the stock in the Parish Office, or place an order which will be filled within six weeks. These are a great gift for Confirmation, First Communion, Mother's Day, Graduation, and Father's Day! 100% of the purchase goes back to the support of our parish, as the proceeds will be used toward the repair of the church parking lot.

Mark your calendars!!!

DON'T FORGET to reserve the dates for our annual *Parish Festival*. One of the biggest fund-raisers of the year for our parish, this year's festival will be held on **Friday and Saturday, August 21 & 22**. Plan NOW how you can help! Volunteers will be greatly appreciated. Thanks!! We will have a Festival Planning Meeting on Wednesday, May 27 in Meeting Rooms A & B at 6:30 p.m.

BINGO TEAM SCHEDULES

Team Members, please make every effort to honor your commitment to this important program. If you are going to miss a scheduled date for your team, please obtain a substitute. If you need a replacement list of workers, please call (878-5353) or stop in the Parish Office. **Note to Parents of Second Graders:** As you know, we have First Communion on May 3 if your team works that date, you might want to negotiate a trade with someone from another team. **Workers are needed!** Call Barb in the Parish Office, 878-5353, to sign up.

	Sunday	Tuesday
Team 1	May 10 (Mother's Day), June 14	May 12, June 16
Team 2	May 17, June 21 (Fathers Day)	May 19, June 23
Team 3	May 24 **, June 28 ** Memorial Day Weekend	May 26, June 30
Team 4	May 31, July 5	June 2, July 7
Team 5	May 3, June 7	May 5, June 9

Your help is needed in the garden . . .

Once again we need help in the St. Cecilia gardens. If you would like to work in a garden area, please contact Sheila Korn (870-8347), Peggy Nestor (922-0070) or Pat Gifford (771-5956). We appreciate your help in keeping the gardens beautiful.

RESPECT LIFE SPIRITUAL ADOPTION

Our spiritually adopted baby is now beginning her 2nd month of life. The embryo becomes completely recognizable as a miniature human being. The face begins to form; muscles in the neck and back begin to contract spontaneously and the baby will arch her back and push away from the amniotic sac. The movements are so small and weak that the mother cannot feel them yet. Brain waves can be detected. By the end of the month, the heartbeat is often strong enough for the doctor to hear.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

First Communion: Practice will be Saturday, May 2. Children and parents should report to the church between 9:30 and 9:40, so that the practice may begin at 9:45 a.m. In the parent segment, Mrs. Maggied will have available the envelopes to order the group photographs.

On Sunday, May 3, children should report to Meeting Room A no later than 1:20 p.m. The group photograph will be taken in the Parish Center at 1:30. Individual pictures of your child are optional; if you wish to get one, please arrive between 12:30 – 1:00. Our First Communion Mass will begin at 2:00 p.m. We suggest that families and other guests go directly to the church, since the only reserved seating is for those involved with the liturgy.

P.S.R. Program: Our program for 2014-2015 comes to a close this month. Our final session will be held on Sunday and Monday, May 17 & 18. The pupil progress reports for the second semester will be sent home with the children. We want to thank all of our staff members as well as the guest speakers who helped with the program this year.

We expect that the registration period for the 2015– 2016 parish religion program will begin at the beginning of August. Families who will be new to the program and who have questions may either phone the number given above, or send an e-mail to kmaggied@saintceciliachurch.org.



Vacation Bible School 2015 Registration forms will be made available the first full week of May. In *The SonSpark Lab* we will explore God's life-changing plan and find the answers to life's most important questions. The children will discover God's love through Jesus and personally experience His plan for each of us — **GP4U=J!**

Classes are offered for children who are four-years-old through those entering fourth grade in fall 2015. Dates for the program are Monday through Friday, June 15 - 19; 9:00 a.m. to noon. General questions about the program may be directed to Katie Wohrle, 878-0133 or e-mail kworhle@saintceciliachurch.org.

Volunteers are needed! Since we use an activity center approach, we need adults and older students (teens) to help with music, crafts, games, snacks, etc. Thanks to those who have already volunteered to help this year! We plan to have on-site childcare for our helpers with infants or toddlers. This is a good way to earn Service Hour credits for upcoming Confirmation candidates as well as high school students! However, you **MUST** sign up in advance with an area of interest and what days & times you will work. Even if you cannot help during our VBS week, you could help with the planning, assembling materials, and/or decorating. Note: adults do need to meet the diocesan Safe Environment criteria.

PARENT BAPTISM CLASS: One of our parish requirements for the baptism of children is that first time parents must attend our Parent Baptism Class. The next class will be held in the Parish Office immediately following the noon Mass on Sunday, May 17. If you are interested in attending, please call 878-5353 to pre-register (note that the class will be cancelled if no one pre-registers). In addition to both parents, we invite the Godparents to attend.

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION/ACTIONS PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING APRIL 8, 2015

Five people from the parish staff will participate in the Amazing Parish conference in Denver, Colorado, April 21 and 22, supported by the Catholic Foundation. The goal is to help pastors and staff to re-evangelize and evangelize the whole assembly. About 40 people attended the parish meeting to provide input to the St. Cecilia staff participating in the Amazing Parish Conference; a follow-up meeting will be held April 30. It was suggested that a Twitter account be established for communication between the participants and the parishioners while in Denver. People are encouraged to visit the website (amazingparish.com).

The Tabernacle has been moved from the chapel to the main worship space which opens the chapel for other uses. Suggestions were Wakes for deceased persons; socials after Masses; meeting presentations; parish library; space for meditation/reading. Question was raised about the Stations of the Cross and current Tabernacle. There was some discussion about distance between the Blessed Sacrament and the individual lessening the feeling of intimacy. Solemn Adoration might be held in the chapel, but there was question about an appropriate altar for the Monstrance.

Festival planning is underway. Main topics at first meeting include chairs and co-chairs, replacement of electric "in use" covers, arrangement of some tents on the grounds, need for 8' tables. An incentive for securing volunteers at another parish is providing gift cards has been suggested.

The St. Vincent DePaul Fifth Sunday collection March 28/29 amounted to \$2,012.50. The order of food deliveries has been changed. The Top Hat ceremony is scheduled for April 25/26.

The Knights of Columbus served over 2,000 meals including a little over a ton of fish during Lent. Eleven men have been inducted into the First Degree and another 10 are scheduled for induction next month.

In response to the lack of volunteers at school/parish functions, the School Board put together a new volunteer policy in which all families of school children are required to volunteer 40 hours each year per family. Twenty of those hours must come from "funds-generating" events such as bingo, the festival, PTO fundraisers, SCRIP. Families will be charged \$10 for every volunteer hour not completed by the end of the school year. Students' report cards will be withheld if this commitment is not fulfilled. The principal has researched the "legality" of this policy.

The Preschool is looking into holding a "Zumba-thon" fundraiser and locating an instructor to lead a group in a Zumba class. Preschool enrollment for 2015-2016 is on track with this time last year.

In February, the EDGE group met at Stardust Lanes for an afternoon of bowling and fellowship; 40 students attended. The annual Lock-in for the EDGE group was held on March 28 and 29, with 52 students attending the overnight. Vacation Bible School will be held the week of June 15; the theme is "SonSpark" Science Lab. A high school ministry program is in the works.

The Columbus Diocese requires one family member from each family with a child in either the fourth or fifth grade to attend the "Parent Like a Champion" class in order for the child to participate in sports. Classes will be offered at St. Cecilia this spring and in August.

On Sunday, March 8, two Sisters from the Dominican Sisters of Mary Mother of the Eucharist visited the third and fourth grade PSR classes to share how religious life is similar to and different from secular life and how each of them received her own calling. On March 22, the assistant admissions director from Cristo Rey High School visited the seventh and eighth grade classes about opportunities provided through the professional work-study program. Six new members were welcomed into the Catholic Church at the Easter Vigil.

(Note: This summary is abbreviated to accommodate the print space available; a more extensive summary is available on the parish website – saintceciliachurch.org.)

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MEMORIAL DAY

Please consider joining others at our Mass on Monday, May 25 at 9:00 a.m. to honor those who gave their lives for our country's needs.

Note: We will not have SCRIP gift card sales after the Masses the weekend of May 23 and 24. St. Cecilia School, Preschool and the Parish Office will be closed on Monday, May 25.