

THE PARISH OF ST. CECILIA ~ ST. GABRIEL

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
Saint Cecilia **Saint Gabriel**
1184 Newfield Avenue 948 Newfield Avenue
Stamford, CT 06905

March 28, 2021

Rev. John P. Connaughton, Pastor

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



PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

So they brought the colt to Jesus and put their cloaks over it. And he sat on it. Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut from the fields; - Mk 11:7-8

Fr. John Connaughton, Pastor
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Fr. Mariusz Olbrys, Parochial Vicar
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Deacon Larry Buzzeo
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Anh Vu, Pastoral Assistant
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Parish Center Office Hours:
Monday - Friday, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Main Number 203.322.1562

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Daily Mass at St. Cecilia Church

Monday through Friday 7:30 a.m.

Weekend Masses at St. Cecilia Church

Saturday (Vigil Mass) 4:00 p.m.
Sunday Masses 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m. & 12 Noon

Mass at St. Gabriel Church

Sunday 10:00 a.m.

Reservations are no longer required to attend Mass

We will still observe social distancing
and all attendees must wear a mask.
We will continue to sanitize after each Mass.

The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed for personal devotion

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, & Friday 12:00 noon - 1:00 p.m.
& Wednesday evenings from 7:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

**No Adoration on Holy Thursday and Good Friday*

Confession Schedule at St. Cecilia Church

Wednesdays: 7:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Saturdays: 3:00 p.m. - 3:45 p.m.

BAPTISMS: Sundays following Noon Mass at St. Cecilia Church.
Arrangements should be made at least one month prior to the baptism.

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.

St. Cecilia - St. Gabriel Parish
Mass Intentions

*All Masses will be at St. Cecilia Church
plus an additional 10:00 a.m. Sunday Mass at St. Gabriel Church.*

SATURDAY	March 27, 2021
4:00 p.m.	Rosanna Silvestro (Vera Gardell)
SUNDAY	March 28, 2021
8:00 a.m.	<i>Palm Sunday</i> For the Parish
10:00 a.m.	For the Parish
10:30 a.m. <i>St. Gabriel</i>	NOTE SPECIAL TME For the Parish
12:00 Noon	For the Parish
MONDAY	March 29, 2021
7:30 a.m.	Margaret Cacace (Anne Marie Cacace)
3:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Reconciliation in Parish Hall
TUESDAY	March 30, 2021
7:30 a.m.	Shaun Sheridan (Lorraine & Family)
WEDNESDAY	March 31, 2021
7:30 a.m.	Nick DeVito (His Family)
THURSDAY	April 1, 2021
7:30 a.m.	<i>Holy Thursday</i> For the Parish
7:30 p.m.	Mass of the Lord's Supper
7:30 p.m. - 11:30 p.m.	Altar Repose
FRIDAY	April 2, 2021
3:00 p.m.	<i>Good Friday</i> Liturgy of the Lord's Passion
7:00 p.m.	Stations of the Cross
SATURDAY	April 3, 2021
12:00 noon-1:00 p.m.	<i>Holy Saturday</i> Blessing of Easter Food
8:00 p.m.	Solemn Easter Vigil
SUNDAY	April 4, 2021
8:00 a.m.	<i>Easter Sunday</i> For the Parish
10:00 a.m.	For the Parish
10:00 a.m. <i>St. Gabriel</i>	For the Parish
12:00 Noon	For the Parish

HOSANNA

It is part of the human experience that when we do something enough times it becomes second nature to us. When it's a good pattern of behavior, we call it virtue. It's it bad, we call it vice. Even things that seem complicated and difficult at first glance, over time can become so much a part of us that we sometimes say we can "do it in our sleep." For Catholics, the Mass is something so familiar to us that we can do it "in our sleep." This is not a virtue, obviously, because it keeps us from fully participating in the Mass and benefitting from it in the way that we're supposed to. Now and then, it's good to consider the words we've said hundreds if not thousands of times at Mass. What do they mean? Where did they come from?

One part of the Mass that's like this is the *Sanctus*, which is the Latin word meaning "Holy." It takes place as a transition from the "offertory," which is when the offerings of bread and wine are prepared on the altar, to the Eucharistic Prayer, which is the prayer that turns the bread and wine into the Eucharist. There are basically two sections to the *Santus*. It begins with: "*Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Hosts. Heaven and earth are full of your glory.*" This phrase comes from the Book of Isaiah (6:2-3), where the prophet has a vision of God sitting on His throne in the Temple, surrounded by angelic beings called "seraphim," who sing these words to each other in praise of God. We also hear the phrase "Holy, Holy, Holy" in the Book of Revelation (4:8), which describes the Throne of the Lord in the Heavenly Jerusalem, around which the angelic creatures give glory to God, singing that phrase without ceasing.

The first section ends with "*Hosanna in the Highest,*" which leads into the second part of the prayer, which is: "*Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord, Hosanna in the Highest!*" This phrase appears in St. Mark's account of Jesus' triumphant entrance into the city of Jerusalem, which we celebrate on Palm Sunday, the celebration that leads us into Holy Week. The word "Hosanna" is from a Hebrew expression that literally refers to one who saves, but which over time developed into a common expression of praise. "Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord" is a reference to Psalm 118, which is a Psalm of thanksgiving to God for His fidelity to His people. The Psalm was used by priests to bless pilgrims who had come to the Temple of Jerusalem to make their sacrificial offerings to God.

At this point, we should start to wake up to what is happening at this part of the Mass. The priest is at the altar, the gifts have been prepared, and the sacrifice is about to be made present. As pilgrims who have come to the sacred space, we begin to sing the perpetual hymn of the heavenly host, together with the people of Jerusalem 2000 years ago, and all of the faithful gathered together – past, present, future – who are preparing to welcome the arrival of the Savior. We fall to our knees, uniting the sacrificial offering of our hearts to the offering made by Christ Jesus through the priest, listening for the words of the

Last Supper, and professing the mystery of faith that He who is the fulfillment of God's promises to fallen humanity has come to us in the Sacred Body and Precious Blood of the Eucharist. And thus, when we enter into the liturgy with greater understanding, what seemed so routine is seen with fresh eyes and revealed to be amazing.

In Christ,
Fr. John

Mass for Palm Sunday

Antiphon: Hosanna Thou Son of David: Blessed is he who comest in the name of the Lord, King of Israel: Hosanna in the highest...

Entrance: All Glory Laud and Honor

First Reading: Is 50:4-7

The Lord God has given me a well-trained tongue, that I might know how to speak to the weary a word that will rouse them. Morning after morning He opens my ear that I may hear; and I have not rebelled, have not turned back. I gave my back to those who beat me, my cheeks to those who plucked my beard; my face I did not shield from buffets and spitting. The Lord God is my help, therefore I am not disgraced; I have set my face like flint, knowing that I shall not be put to shame.

Tract: My God, my God, look upon me, why hast Thou forsaken me? And art so far from my health and from the word of my complaint? O my God I cry by day; Thou hearest not and at night also I take no rest. But Thou continues holy, O Thou worship of Israel. Our father hoped in Thee, they trusted; Thou rescued them. They called upon Thee and were Holpen. They trusted and were not confounded.

Second Reading: Phil 2:6-11

Christ Jesus, though He was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God something to be grasped. Rather, He emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, coming in human likeness; and found human in appearance, he humbled himself, becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Because of this, God greatly exalted Him and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, of those in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Gospel: Mk 11:1-10

When Jesus and his disciples drew near to Jerusalem, to Bethphage and Bethany at the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples and said to them, "Go into the village opposite you, and immediately on entering it, you will find a colt tethered on which no one has ever sat. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone should say to you, 'Why are you doing this?' reply, 'The Master has need of it and will send it back here at once.'" So they went off and found a colt tethered at a gate outside on the street, and they untied it.

Some of the bystanders said to them, "What are you doing, untying the colt?" They answered them just as Jesus had told them to, and they permitted them to do it. So they brought the colt to Jesus and put their cloaks over it. And he sat on it. Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut from the fields. Those preceding him as well as those following kept crying out: "Hosanna. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the kingdom of our father David that is to come! Hosanna in the highest!"

Offertory: "The Palms" - Faure

Communion Antiphon: Father if this cup cannot pass me by, Thy will be done.

Holy Thursday Mass of the Lord's Supper April 1st at 7:30 p.m.

Introit: But as for us it behooveth us to glory in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, in whom is our salvation, life and resurrection, also, by whom we are saved, and obtained our freedom God be merciful unto us and bless us and show us the light of his countenance, and be merciful unto us.

Gradual: The eyes of all wait upon Thee; O Lord; and Thou givest them their meat in a season opportune. Thou openest Thine hand; and fillest all things living with plenteousness.

Communion Antiphon: Every time you eat this bread and drink this cup, do it in memory of me.

Good Friday Liturgy of the Lord's Passion April 2nd at 3:00 p.m.

After the First Lesson: O Lord hear my prayer and let my cry come unto Thee. Hide not Thy face from me; Be with me in the day when I am troubled, when I call, answer me speedily. For my days are consumed like smoke and my bones are burned as a hearth. My heart smitten and withered like grass, so that I forget to eat my bread. By reason of the voice of my groaning bones, cleave to my skin. Thou shalt arise, have mercy Christ became for our sakes obedient even to dying, dying even on the cross. Therefore also our God hath exalted Him and gave unto Him the name which is over every other name. Thou shalt arise; have mercy upon Sion, for the time to favor her; yea the set time is come.

Gradual: Christ became for our sakes obedient even to dying, dying even on the cross. Therefore also our God hath exalted Him and gave unto Him the name which is over every other name.

Communion Antiphon: They parted my garments among them, and upon my vesture they cast lots.

St. Cecilia - St. Gabriel Parish Offertory Totals

Week ending March 21, 2021

Mail In	\$2,560
4:00 p.m.	\$1,265
8:00 a.m.	\$1,705
10:00 a.m. combined	\$1,695
Noon	\$ 581
Easter Flowers	\$ 335
Online Giving Total	\$5,650
Add'l Catholic Relief Services -	
Diocesan Collection	\$ 65
Votive Candles St. Gabriel	\$ 30
Add'l Monthly	\$ 180



Thank you for your continued support and generosity!

Many thanks to those who have signed up for Online Giving and to those who continue to mail in your offertory envelopes.

*For Online Giving please register at www.osvonlinegiving.com/1522/
The link is on our website, too!!*

Prayer to Saint Michael the Archangel

St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle.
Be our defense against the wickedness and snares of the Devil.

May God rebuke him, we humbly pray,
and do thou, O Prince of the heavenly host,
by the power of God, cast into hell Satan,
and all the evil spirits,

who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls.

Amen.

Reconciliation Monday

March 29th, 2021

Confessions

3:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

St. Cecilia Parish Hall



Confessions also at Holy Spirit Church
and Sacred Heart Church on the same date and times.

For the Week of March 27th

St. Cecilia Church



*The Tabernacle Lamp shines for Elena C. Niell
from her Family*

*The Vigil Lamp for Mary shines for Margaret Cacace
from Her Family*

*The Vigil Lamp for Joseph shines for Martin Burke
from Louise Dunn*



St. Gabriel Church



*The Vigil Lamp for Our Lady shines for Vincenzo Muro
from Tom and Ann Verraastro*



THE PARISH OF ST. CECILIA-ST. GABRIEL

The following Holy Week services will be held at St. Cecilia Church

Holy Thursday

Mass of the Lord's Supper 7:30 p.m.
Altar Repose until 11:30 p.m.

Good Friday

Liturgy of the Lord's Passion 3:00 p.m.
Stations of the Cross 7:00 p.m.

Holy Saturday

Blessing of Easter Food 12:00 noon - 1:00 p.m.
Solemn Easter Vigil 8:00 p.m.

Easter Sunday

Mass at St. Cecilia at 8:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon
Mass at St. Gabriel (948 Newfield Ave) at 10:00 a.m.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION 2020-2021

SUNDAY, MARCH 28TH - HOME STUDY FOR ALL

SUNDAY, APRIL 4TH - HAPPY EASTER

SUNDAY, APRIL 11TH - CLASSES MEET

SUNDAY, APRIL 18TH - HOME STUDY FOR ALL

SUNDAY APRIL 25 - LAST CLASS LEVELS 1 TO 8

FRIDAY, APRIL 30TH - FIRST COMMUNION REHEARSALS

GROUP A 4:30 P.M. - GROUP B 5:30 P.M.

SATURDAY, MAY 1ST - FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

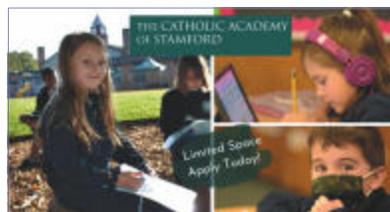
GROUP A AT 10:00 A.M. - GROUP B AT 12:00 NOON

PLEASE REMEMBER TO SUBMIT COMPLETED LESSONS.
The health and safety of our children, families and
catechists are of the utmost importance.

Questions? Please email our DRE Maryanne Didelot at
DRE@stcecilia-stgabriel.org
or call 203.322.1562

Lenten Opportunity

The kiosk in the Vestibule of the church is fully stocked - offering inspirational opportunities during Lent for parishioners, visitors and friends. You'll find a selection of Catholic CDs (with download availability), booklets and books. Take a few minutes, either before or after Mass, to browse through the available selections. New titles arrive often. Make this Lent the best Lent ever. Visit the kiosk - you'll be glad you did!



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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. DelVaglio, Sgt. Taylor A. Ritchie, FN Ellie Fratturo, Lt. Col. Michael J. Souza, Jack H. Whitney, Christopher Ciacciarella, PO Joshua M. Hicks, SR Allison McNamara, 2Lt. James Arpaio, Ryan Frattaroli.

Help Stop State Sponsored Suicide

Politicians in Hartford are again considering assisted suicide legislation. The Public Health Committee of the Connecticut General Assembly is considering legalizing a form of suicide in our state commonly referred to as "aid-in-dying" or "physician-assisted suicide." The Committee has raised *House Bill 6425 "An Act Concerning Aid in Dying for Terminally Ill Patients."*

Modern hospice care and the proper use of pain medications render suicide unnecessary, and we need to be mindful of the threat that a suicide mentality poses to vulnerable people and to people with disabilities. Many people believe that a physician is deeply involved in this process. This is not true. The physician orders the mixture of medications, the patient must then consume the deadly cocktail of drugs without assistance. Many times without even a physician or nurse present.

We should never allow legislators to establish suicide as a solution to medical issues. Don't let the state persuade us that it's dignified for an ill person to sign their own execution order. Don't let the state create an environment where ill people will feel they have a "responsibility to die."

Catholic teaching condemns physician-assisted suicide because it, like murder, involves taking an innocent human life:

Suicide is always as morally objectionable as murder. The Church's tradition has always rejected it as a gravely evil choice: To concur with the intention of another person to commit suicide and to help in carrying it out through so-called "assisted suicide" means to cooperate in, and at times to be the actual perpetrator of, an injustice which can never be excused, even if it is requested. Saint Augustine writes that "it is never licit to kill another: even if he should wish it." True "compassion" leads to sharing another's pain; it does not kill the person whose suffering we cannot bear. (John Paul II, The Gospel of Life, no. 66).

TAKE ACTION

Go to the website below, read more on the issue and then sign the petition to stop the legalization of assisted suicide in Connecticut

www.ctstopsuicide.org

Connecticut Catholic Public Affairs Conference



THE STAMFORD CATHOLIC YOUTH GROUP

For more information, contact Fr. Joseph Gill at frgill@diobpt.org or 203.324.1553 or check out <https://stjohnbasilica.org/youth-ministry>

Masks will be worn and social distancing will be observed!

Middle School Youth Group Schedule

Regular Youth Group Meetings are from 7:00 p.m.– 8:30 p.m.
April 23 - May 7, 21 - to meet at St. Gabriel

High School Youth Group Schedule

Regular Youth Group Meetings are from 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.
April 16, 30 - May 14, 28 - to meet at Holy Spirit

Service Projects & Trips for Both Middle School & High School

- April 9 to 11: Fearless Retreat in Graymoor, NY for 8th to 12th graders
- May 31: Hiking Trip to Sleeping Giant State Park

St. Gabriel Parish . 914 Newfield Avenue (behind the former Trinity Catholic)
Holy Spirit Parish . 403 Schofieldtown Road



OPEN HOUSE
Sunday, April 11th
12:30 pm. - 2:30 p.m.
Reservations requested

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High School Placement Test on April 17th

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He Is Risen! The Power of the Resurrection

Join Brother Francis as he celebrates the power and splendor of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ in this moving and instructive animated presentation! Brother Francis explains key points in the life of Jesus Christ, His Death on the Cross, triumph over death, and Ascension to the Father. A visual representation of how we celebrate Holy Week and the Easter Triduum "*He Is Risen!*" is a joyful, visualized song that fills our hearts with praise to God. Steeped in Scripture and instruction, Brother Francis' "*He Is Risen!*" is a wonderful reminder of the reality of God's power and presence! <https://watch.formed.org/videos/he-is-risen-the-power-of-the-resurrection>



The Spirit of Adoption

The Wild Goose with
Fr. Dave Pivonka

"For those who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you received a spirit of adoption, through which we cry, 'Abba, Father!'"

Romans 8:14-16

The Holy Spirit reveals many things to us. One of the most beautiful is the Spirit revealing God as our loving Father, our "Abba - Daddy." Jesus related to his Father as Abba and never before had God been spoken of in such personal and intimate terms. God as Abba is a uniquely beautiful Christian revelation. The Spirit of Jesus desires to free us from fear and a master-slave relationship to give us a Father-Daughter or Father-Son relationship.

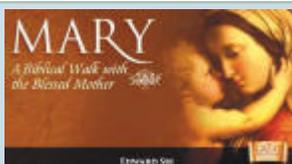
<https://watch.formed.org/the-wild-goose-with-fr-dave-pivonka/season:1/videos/the-spirit-of-adoption>

The Search Episode 4 WHAT'S OUR STORY?



Your life is a story. And it's caught up in the great story of humanity. This great story, as we see it in the Scriptures, shows us the amazing love story that is God's pursuit of man. The God that is love created so we can ultimately be with his love. We were made to be with God. Union with God is so central to the purpose of life; we even see the afterlife in these terms. Our definition of Heaven is union with God, and hell is absence of Him. Your life has a plot. Your life has purpose. Your life has value. We need to see how we fit into this big love story to begin to know why we exist. And that love of God isn't abstract.

It has a face and name: Jesus. <https://watch.formed.org/the-search/videos/theseach-ep4>



St. Cecilia – St. Gabriel Bible Study

Mary: A Biblical Walk with the Blessed Mother

Tuesday Zoom meetings start at 7:00 p.m.

Thursday in-person meetings start at 7:15 p.m.

St. Gabriel meeting room

NO MEETINGS DURING HOLY WEEK

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<https://ascensionpress.com/collections/mary-a-biblical-walk-wth-the-blessed-mother>

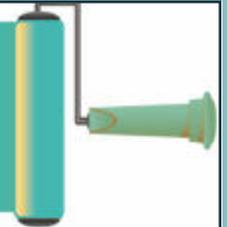
Be sure to RSVP to receive the ZOOM link and/or reserve your place for the live meeting

Vicki Alton's cell 203.561.3558 or vickia@optonline.net

Come see why so many have come to love the bible.

This year, because of the COVID-19 pandemic, we are offering a hybrid program that allows people to participate either in person at the hall at St. Gabriel's or through ZOOM. In order to comply with the Bishop's current guidelines, we are encouraging those who are over 65 years old to participate using the ZOOM option. In-person participation will be limited to fewer than 25 people, observing all social distancing and mask requirements.

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