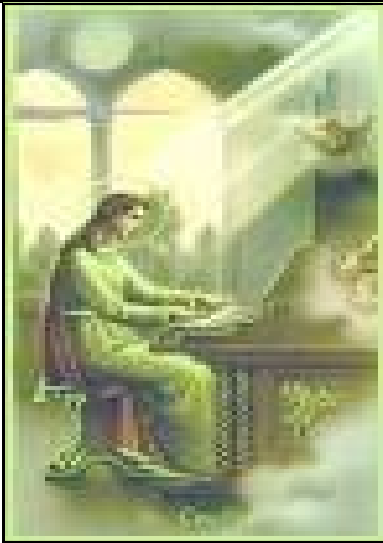


EXTERNAL SOLEMNITY OF SAINT CECILIA November 18th, 2007

Pastor: Fr. Patrick Furtado Associate Pastor: Fr. Leo Monroe Deacon: Michael Soentgerath



This Week In Our Parish LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

Saturday, November 17th	External Solemnity of Saint Cecilia 5:00 pm mass: †Frank Ward / Family
Sunday, November 18th	External Solemnity of Saint Cecilia 9:00 am mass: †Justo Bernardo / Family 11:00 am mass: †Josephine and †Julian Boyko / Rose Marie
Monday, November 19th	Ferial 9:00 am mass: †Mary Fiacconi / Nancy and Ed Serhan, Brad and Ken 10:30 am mass: Southwood Care Centre: For all parishioners, living and deceased
Tuesday, November 20th	Ferial 9:00 am mass: †Virginia Obligacion / Family
Wednesday, Nov. 21st	Memorial of the Presentation of Mary 7:00 am mass: †Henry Gepaya / Family 9:00 am mass: Friends of Suffering Souls in Purgatory / Mary Krasinska 6:30 pm: Prayers for the Sick
Thursday, November 22nd	Memorial of Saint Cecilia 7:00 am mass: †Patricia Schuler / Marcel and Mercedes 9:00 am mass: †Helene and †Mona / Friends of Suffering Souls in Purgatory 7:00 pm mass: K of C 4th Degree Mass: Intention: Jack Baran and Lila MacLean
Friday, November 23rd	Ferial / Saint Clement 1 / Saint Columban 7:00 am mass: †George Benallack / Tzotzos Family 9:00 am mass: Joseph Offidani / Nancy, Ed, Brad and Ben 7:00 pm mass: Benediction
Saturday, November 24th	Memorial of Saint Andrew Dung-Lac and Companions 9:00 am mass: †Joseph Guerin / Peter and Madeleine
Saturday, November 24th	Our Lord Jesus, Christ the King 5:00 pm mass: †Tyrone Deane / Eric and Noreen Keefe
Sunday, November 25th	Our Lord Jesus, Christ the King 9:00 am mass: †Josue and Adoracion Suple / Family 11:00 am mass: †Virginia Obligacion / Family

Dear Parishioners,

St. Cecilia, the patroness of our church, was a maiden of noble birth. At an early age, she dedicated her life to God with a vow of chastity. She, however, was betrothed and married to a young noble named Valerian. On her wedding day, she prayed to the Lord and asked Him to protect her virginity. History records, "The day on which the wedding was to be held arrived and while musical instruments were playing, she was singing in her heart to God alone saying, 'Make my heart and my body pure that I may not be confounded.'" (McKinnon 46)

It is believed that is what lead to the eventual naming of Cecilia as the patroness of music. St. Cecilia's prayers were answered, and Valerian was willing to take her as his wife without forcing her to break her vow. Not only did he accept her vow of chastity, he and his brother, Tiburtius, were both converted to Christianity. At this time, Christianity was still illegal in Rome. Both Valerian and his brother were soon discovered as professed Christians and were martyred. Cecilia was discovered soon after and met a similar fate. It required two attempts, however, before the death of Cecilia was successful. She was first locked in a bath in her own home to be suffocated by the steam. When she emerged from the bath unharmed, she was then beheaded. The stroke of the axe failed to sever her head from her body, however, and she lived for three days. During this time, she saw to the disbursement of her assets to help the poor, and she donated her home to the ecclesiastical authorities to be used as a church. Cecilia is believed to be buried at the Catacomb of Callistus.

Psalm 150 speaks of praising God with music and singing. By this homage of praise, we join the heavenly spirits in their uninterrupted songs of adoration, love and praise. And by music, we can express the spiritual joy of our hearts. Divine love and praise are the work of the heart, without which all words or exterior signs are hypocrisy and mockery. Yet, as we are bound to consecrate to God our voice, all our organs and the faculties which we use, so we ought to employ them all in magnifying His sanctity, greatness and glory. As we celebrate the Feast of our Patron Saint, let us, at the same time, make a small promise to God to use our talents, especially our music skills, to praise him. A very happy feast to each of you!

"St. Cecilia, inspire musicians to gladden the hearts of people by filling the air with God's gift of music and reminding them of the divine Musician who created all beauty."



A musical celebration to honour our patroness, Saint Cecilia, will be held Sunday evening, November 18th, at 7:00 p.m., in the church. All parishioners and guests are invited to attend. A reception will follow.

FAMILY NIGHT OF ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS MUSIC

will be held on Sunday evening, December 9th, at 7:30 p.m., here at St. Cecilia's Church., featuring choirs from various churches in the Acadia and Bonaventure districts. Everyone is welcome to attend.