

5TH SUNDAY of Easter

Saint Cecilia CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

5632 Sunrise Drive • Fort Myers, FL 33919

Phone: 936-3635 • Fax: 936-2108

Website • www.saintcecilias.org Apr 28, 2024

“Stewardship is the Grateful Response of a Christian Disciple Who Recognizes and Receives God’s Gifts and Shares These Gifts in



Congratulations to Aurelio Macareno & Yolanda Olivares on the Baptism of their Son, Angel David Marcareno-Olivares on April 21, 2024.



Weekend Masses

Saturday Vigil Mass..... 4:00 PM
Sunday 7:30 AM, 9:00 AM and 11:00 AM

Reconciliation Saturday, 2:30 - 3:30 PM
or by appointment

Holy Day and Holiday Schedule: Schedule will vary. Check the previous weekend’s bulletin for information. (Bulletin available at saintcecilias.org).

Office Hours: Monday - Friday, 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM.. The Parish Office is closed daily from Noon to 1:00 PM for lunch.

Adoration: Next Friday is FIRST FRIDAY Adoration 8:00 AM with Benediction at 8:50PM. Family Adoration the Thursday night preceding First Friday from 7:00 PM to 8:00 PM. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is available during Family Adoration.

Our Mission Statement

The mission of Saint Cecilia Catholic Community is to “Live Jesus” and to see His image in all people. With the Eucharist at the center of our lives and inspired by Scripture, Tradition and Community, we give honor and glory to God through education, example, prayer, service, social justice and worship.

Daily Masses SUMMER SCHEDULE

Monday, Wednesday and Friday 7:30 AM
Tuesday and Thursday 12:10 PM

Chapel open for Prayer when the Parish Office is open

Monday - Friday 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM

SATURDAY, 10:00 AM	APR 27 Funeral Sharon Occhino	C
SUNDAY, 9:30 AM	APR 28 FFF & Youth Group	PH
9:30 AM	1st Communion Prep	103/104
12:00 PM	1st Communion Practice	C
12:00—2:00	Faith Formation	PH
3:00 PM	Lectio Eucharist (Adult FF)	PH
MONDAY, 12:10 PM	APR 29 Rosary	CH
5:30 PM	OCIA	101
7:00 PM	Boy Scout Troop 316	A/B
TUESDAY, 8:30 AM	APR 30 Men's Gospel Group	104
12:45 PM	Rosary	CH
1:00 PM	Walking with Purpose	MH
WEDNESDAY, 12:10 PM	MAY 1 Rosary	CH
7:00 PM	Lectio Eucharist (Adult FF)	PH
THURSDAY, 10:00 AM	MAY 2 Prayer Shawl Group	104
10:30 AM	Lectio Eucharist (Adult FF)	PH
12:45 PM	Rosary	CH
7:00 PM	Walking with Purpose	PH
6:00 PM	Youth Choir Practice	C/CR
7:00 PM	Adult Choir Practice	C/CR
FRIDAY 10:00 AM	MAY 3 Scripture Sharing	L
10:00 AM	Divine Mercy	101
12:10 PM	Rosary	CH
5:30 PM	Rosary	C
5:30—8:00PM	Preparing for the Ascension	C
SATURDAY, After all Masses	MAY 4 May Crowning	C
9:30 AM	FFF & Youth Group	PH
3:00 PM	Lectio Eucharist (Adult FF)	PH



Our readings today teach us what it means to bear fruit as disciples of Christ. We hear in each of our readings that it is from the Lord that good effects will be produced in our lives.

In our first reading, we hear about disciples that were preaching the Good News and defending the faith. The work they were doing was "with the consolation of the Holy Spirit." It was not their work alone, but the work of God.

We must ask ourselves, 'how is God bearing fruit in my life?' and 'have I invited the Holy Spirit to work in me?' The more we try to produce good effects in our lives, the more we will become disappointed if all we are relying on is our own efforts. It is only by inviting the Holy Spirit into our everyday moments that we will see goodness poured out.

Jesus clearly tells us how to do this in our Gospel. He says, "I am the vine, you are the branches. Whoever remains in me and I in him will bear much fruit." We can remain in Christ by staying faithful to His commandments and frequently receiving the sacraments. And our day to day moments should be a reflection of those commitments.

That could mean opening our day with a prayer of thanksgiving, smiling at those we see on the street, asking God for help as we begin our workday, praising God in moments of trial, taking time to listen to our spouse after a long day. To remain in Christ means, in all that we do, we do it with the Lord.

When we live a life like that — as a branch never separated from its vine — God will produce bountiful fruit in our lives.



Society of Saint Vincent de Paul ST. CECILIA CONFERENCE March 2024 Update

How we helped our local community in the Month of March

- 54 Phone calls : Vincentians processed **calls for help daily** with only 12 active members.
- 35 Referred to other Agencies : Vincentians refer to other Agencies throughout Lee County to provide assistance that we cannot.
- 161 Families Helped All families are in our area.
- Electricity Assistance \$588.50 St Cecilia's Conference helped to keep the lights on.
- Water Assistance \$74.74 St Cecilia's Conference helped to keep the water running
- Food Assistance \$2,800.00 St Cecilia's Conference provided ALDI food cards for food and toiletries.
- Rent Assistance \$2,479.00 St Cecilia helped 3 **households** with rent.
- TOTAL ASSISTANCE \$5,942.24**

**This Ministry would not be possible without the
PARISHIONERS OF ST CECILIA CATHOLIC COMMUNITY**

The Society THANKS YOU for your generosity to the poor of the Parish neighborhood.

Mass will be offered for the Benefactors of the Society on Monday April 29 at 7:30 am.

Please continue to be generous to the Society in their monthly collection to help feed the poor in our community
Society of St. Vincent de Paul / St Cecilia Conference 5632 Sunrise Drive Fort Myers, FL 33919 (239) 936 -3635 ext 133

“Share with the Lord’s people who are in need.”
(Romans 12:13)



Our 2024 assessment is \$230,000.00

Pledges..... \$156,913

% of Goal..... 68.2%

% of Households26.11%



Total Payments..... \$ 124,601

Your generosity is greatly appreciated !

HELP WANTED

The following position is available at St Cecilia.

Youth Coordinator : Part time

If viewing on line, [Click here for details and to apply](#). Otherwise visit dioceseofvenice.org and click on EMPLOYMENT at the bottom of the page and follow the prompts. If you have further questions, contact Jeanne Conklin in the Parish office at 239 936 3635 x 112.



During the month of May, Catholics celebrate the **Crowning of Mary**, where a crown is placed on Mary's head with flowers. Please join with us on May 4 and 5 when we will process to Marian Hall after Mass to crown the Mother of our Risen Lord.

Prayer Intentions

Please go on line (Click on Link scan QR code below) and submit your prayer requests. Enter the Person receiving the intentions first name, then last. Choose what type of intentions you are requesting, i.e., a birth or birthday, anniversary, prayers answered or blessing received, physical or spiritual healing, etc. After your choice is entered, enter your name and your phone number, (your name and number are not published).

You may also view the prayer intentions. To view the list, hold Control & click on the Link or scan the QR code.



[Click here, to submit Prayer Intentions](#)



[Current Prayer Intentions](#)



A Thought From St. Francis De Sales



As soon you realize that you have given way to anger, correct the fault straight away by an act of meekness toward the person who annoyed you. The only remedy against lying is to correct the lie as soon as we realize we have told it; so we must also repair our anger instantly by an act of meekness, because, as the saying goes, fresh wounds are the quickest to be healed.

1 John 3:18 Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth.



Altar Serving
is a fantastic way to show your love with action

We especially need servers for
7:30am
9:00am
4:00pm



If you have made your First Communion, you qualify.

Servers graduate high school, move to other ministries, move away, etc. so we ALWAYS need more.

FREE training.

Contact Debbie at 239-936-3635 or dlaughlin@saintcecilias.net



The Music Ministry is always looking for a few good folks with a generous heart, a love for music and a grateful spirit.

If you or your child would like to be a **singer, ringer, or instrumentalist** at St. Cecilia's, there are plenty of opportunities to get you started.

For more information, please contact Sherry Cross, Coordinator of Music Ministries, at 239-936-3635 ext. 128.

Men's Gospel Forum



Attention all men: Please join us for the Men's Gospel Forum every Tuesday at 8:30 A.M. We gather as a group to pray and gain spiritual knowledge of the Scriptures.

Please contact George Moeggenberg, at 239-671-9789 to be provided with further information. We would enjoy your joining us.



Whether you are just passing through the area or looking for a spiritual home, we welcome you to St. Cecilia Catholic Community. We hope you find our worship environment hospitable and prayerful.

People often attend Mass at a parish for months or years without officially registering. Registration here at St. Cecilia is an expression of your commitment to being an active member of our community. Parish registration also simplifies the process with regard to religious education; sponsoring a sacramental candidate; and for the planning and preparation of baptisms, weddings and funerals.

Registration is easy and can be completed at the Parish Office during regular office hours or on our website:

[Registration form \(saintcecilias.org\)](http://saintcecilias.org)

What is an "Active" Parishioner ?

Registering in a Catholic parish is a declaration of your desire to be part of a Catholic faith community and a commitment to the life of the parish family. Your Catholic commitment brings you many advantages, recognition and responsibilities.

If you are Winter resident we invite you to register with St Cecilia as your seasonal parish. Registering at St Cecilia, as well as your northern Parish, is a normal practice, and gives us an opportunity to communicate with you regarding worshipping with us during the Winter.

The Parish staff is often asked to provide affidavits to parishioners for baptismal and /or confirmation sponsors. They can only do this if a person is a registered and active member in our parish.

Key characteristics of "active" members of a parish are regularly attending the weekly Mass, volunteering time/talent, and giving financial support to the parish.

Being active is not about giving a **specific amount** of money or time—it is about **regular participation**. As each parishioner has different financial and time constraints, St Cecilia Parish has a wide range of opportunities available to donate your time, talent, and treasure.



NEXT WEEK IS OUR MONTHLY FOOD DRIVE

Your donations are shared with Catholic Charities and are collected on the first Sunday of each month. Requested items are Peanut Butter (**especially Peanut Butter**) rice, beans, canned meats, vegetables and disposable adult briefs (L and XL) for our senior services.

Please, **NO GLASS CONTAINERS** or **OPENED / EXPIRED ITEMS**.

Thank You !



Mass Intentions for the Week

- Saturday,** 4:00 PM **APRIL 27**
† Jack Kilmartin by his children
 - Sunday,** 7:30 AM **APRIL 28**
St Cecilia Parishioners
 - 9:00 AM † Margaret Adams
by Gabriele Spangler
 - 11:00 AM † Jack Kilmartin by his children
 - Monday,** 7:30 AM **APRIL 29**
Benefactors of the St Vincent de Paul Society by the SVDP Society
 - Tuesday,** 12:10 PM **APRIL 30**
† Ron Altpeter by Mary Ann Ferry
 - Wednesday,** 7:30 AM **MAY 1**
Betty Lezama by her Sister
 - Thursday,** 12:10 PM **MAY 2**
† John Benedict by Pat Benedict
 - Friday,** 7:30 AM **MAY 3**
Priest's Intention
 - Saturday,** 4:00 PM **MAY 4**
† Margaret Adams
by Dave & Jane Herrington
 - Sunday,** 7:30 AM **MAY 5**
St Cecilia Parishioners
 - 9:00 AM Diana Durkin Belt
by Douglas & Susan Zell
 - 11:00 AM † Ann DeRose by Nancy Zavada
- Scripture Readings For the Week**
- Monday** Acts 14:5-18 Jn 14:21-26
 - Tuesday** Acts 14:19-28 Jn 14:27-31a
 - Wednesday** Acts :15:1-6 Jn 15:1-8
 - Thursday** Acts :15:7-21 Jn 15:9-11
 - Friday** 1 Cor 15:1-8 Jn 14:6-14
 - Saturday** Acts 16:1-10 Jn 15:18-21
 - Sunday** Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48
1 Jn 4:7-10 Jn 15:9-17

Scan QR code for Daily Readings from USCCB



The Sanctuary Lamp

The Light that Symbolizes the Eternal Sacrifice

This Week's Sanctuary Lamp

In Memory of Margaret Adams
By Keene Pieper & Rob Saunders





PREPARING FOR THE ASCENSION DURING FOUR FRIDAYS OF THE EASTER SEASON

Join with your fellow Parishioners on May 3 and May 10 in prayer and fellowship in anticipation of the feast of the Ascension

5:30 pm Praying the Rosary (in the Chapel)

6:00 pm Stations of the Resurrection (in the Prayer Garden across the street from the Chapel.)

7:00 pm Enjoying episodes 3 & 4 of Season Four of "The Chosen" (in the Parish hall, please bring snacks to share) On May 3, we will also have First Friday benediction at 8: 50 pm in the chapel.

You can watch the first 3 seasons and the first 2 episodes of Season 4 to catch up of "The Chosen" at You Tube / the Angels Studio App or Angel.com.

Parish SUMMER Camp

Join us for a week of faith-filled fun!



1st - 6th Grade

July 15 - 19, 9:00AM - 3:00PM

Bring lunch, Snacks provided

Cost: One Child - \$75

Two Children - \$125

Three Children - \$200

Four+ Children - \$250

7th - 12th Grade

July 14 - 18, 6:30PM - 8:45PM

Snacks provided

Cost: One Child - \$20

Two Children - \$40

Three+ Children - \$60

REGISTRATION STARTS
APRIL 27TH

Space
is limited
register
early!



FORMS AVAILABLE IN THE PARISH OFFICE
OR DOWNLOAD AT SAINTCECILIAS.ORG

Return completed forms and payment to:
Saint Cecilia Faith Formation
5632 Sunrise Drive, Fort Myers, 33919



Safe Environment Training Is Mandatory For New Volunteers

The Diocese of Venice is committed to provide a safe environment for children and vulnerable adults. To that end, persons working with children or visiting vulnerable adults, as well as any volunteer for any ministry, are required to be fingerprinted (this process includes a background check) and to receive training in recognizing potential signs of abuse. The training portion can be done in your home in your home over a PC.

For further information, visit the Diocesan website at www.dioceseofvenice.org/safeenvironment to see what is required before the parish can accept a volunteer into any ministry. Any cost a volunteer incurs to complete these requirements will be fully reimbursed on request. Report any abuse against minors to the Florida Department of Children and Families at 800-962-2873. To report abuse by Diocesan personnel or volunteers also notify the Diocesan Victims Assistance Coordinator at 941 484 9543.



The Knight's Corner



In Remembrance of Charles Gerard Richmond who passed away last month. Charlie was the founder of the St. Cecilia Knights of Columbus Council and its first Grand Knight. His hard work and dedication to the Catholic community has helped the parish grow stronger in its faith and charity. You will be missed!



All Catholic men are encouraged to become Knights. This is an international organization dedicated to helping the Church, our communities, our parish, and our families. We will be meeting the second Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. for any men interested in how they might serve the community. We offer snacks and refreshments during our social time after our brief meetings.



Go to KofC.org to learn more and to sign up.
 Matt Andres, Grand Knight GK13483ma@gmail.com
 Steve Jansen, Deputy Grand Knight sjansen571@gmail.com



Staffed by the Oblates of Saint Francis de Sales

Fr. Paul Dechant OSFS
Pastor

Fr. Francis J. Hanlon, OSFS
Parochial Vicar

Rev. Mr. Rick Castro
Permanent Deacon

Fr. Stanley Dombrowski OSFS
Priest in Residence

Pastoral Staff

Patty Kiernan
Coordinator of Religious Education

Tuesday Shannon
Faith Formation Assistant
Marian Hall Rentals

Sherry Cross
Coordinator of Music

Debbie Laughlin
Coordinator of Worship

Elvia Arana
Coordinator of Pastoral Ministry

Mary Zalud
Youth Coordinator

Jeanne Conklin
Business Administrator

Mary Jo Nardello
Office Assistant

Rich Garcia
Administrative Assistant

Steve Borden
Maintenance

Daxton Wellman
Maintenance

Adult and Teen Volunteers needed for Bible

Camp! July 15th - 19th

For more info or to register,
 pick up a volunteer form
 in the parish office or

download at: saintcecilias.org/family-faith-formation



Best week of the summer!



Be Blessed and Encouraged

at our next Magnificat breakfast for women,
Saturday, May 11, 9:30 AM – 12:30 PM at the
 Crown Plaza Fort Myers Gulf Coast, formerly
 Holiday Inn Airport.



Our speaker, Fernande Benjamin, was born in Canada. She lost her mother when she was only five. Her childhood was influenced by her devout Catholic father and step-mother. At age eight, Fernande immigrated to the United States, unable to speak a word of English. Although she was in third grade in Canada, when she enrolled in classes taught by the Daughters of the Holy Spirit Congregation, she was placed in first grade to learn English.

Fernande developed a powerful devotion to the Holy Spirit. Marriage followed. After being childless for six years, the couple adopted two children. Fernande and her husband Ray made a Cursillo. Both began work in prison ministry.

They moved to Florida in 1981, and were introduced to the charismatic prayer group. Life in the Spirit seminar followed. Fernande learned how forgiveness is essential for Jesus to set us free and journey on in life in freedom. She served in many ministries throughout the years, and at present, she serves as chairperson for Magnificat greeters.

Please send a \$26 check, payable to *Magnificat Fort Myers*, to Margaret Mengle, 5017 Westminster Dr., Fort Myers, FL 33919. **Your mail request must be postmarked by May 3** or make online reservations until **TUESDAY, MAY 7** at <https://magnificatfortmyers.com/order-tickets/>. For more information, contact *Margaret Mengle*, 239-826-7475.