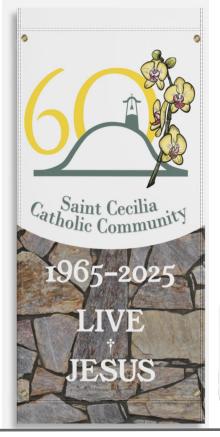
# See Christ In Others



## Saint Cecilia Community

5632 Sunrise Dr, Fort Myers, FL 33919 phone 239 936 3635 fax 239 936 2108 website www.saintcecilias.org November 23, 2025

#### **CELEBRATING 60 YEARS!**

1965 - 2025

Looking back with gratitude, ahead with hope,

Living Jesus now and forever.



#### Weekend Masses

Daily Masses (Winter Schedule began Nov 1)

November through Wednesday of Holy Week

Monday - Friday .........7:30 AM and 12:10 PM

Chapel open for Prayer when the Parish Office is open

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

Adoration Friday 8:00 AM - Benediction 11:50 AM

First Friday 8:00 AM—Benediction 8:50 PM

#### 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:** Friday, 8:00 am in the Chapel. Benediction is at 11:50 am. First Friday Adoration begins at 8:00 am with the Benediction at 8:50 pm. Family Adoration is held the Thursday prior to First Friday from 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm. 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.

SATURDAY, 5:15 pm SUNDAY,	NOVEMBER 22 Volunteer Dinner NOVEMBER 23	МН
8:30 - 10:30 am	Sunday Social	PH
9:00 - 11:00 am	Family Faith Formation	PH
10:00 am <b>MONDAY</b> ,	Walking with Purpose NOVEMBER 24	PH
MONDAI,	NOVEMBER 24	
TUESDAY,	NOVEMBER 25	
8:30 am <sup>′</sup>	Men's Gospel Forum	101
12:45 pm	Rosary	CH
7:00 pm	Cursillo	PH
WEDNESDAY,	NOVEMBER 26	
12:45 pm	Rosary	CH
7:00 pm	Walking with Purpose	PH
THURSDAY,	NOVEMBER 27	
	Happy Thanksgiving OFFICE CLOSED	
FRIDAY,	NOVEMBER 28	
,	OFFICE CLOSED	
	Mass at 9:00 am.	
8:00 - 8:50am	Adoration	CH
9:45 –11:50am	Adoration	CH
5:30 pm	Rosary	CH
SATURDAY,	NOVEMBER 29	
SUNDAY.	NOVEMBER 30	

#### SILENCE IN THE CHAPEL

One of the things about St. Cecilia which draws people to our parish is the "community feeling" people get when they arrive and are warmly greeted and welcomed as they enter and can catch up with other parishioners. It is a wonderful thing! Yet it can be a bit loud and distracting, especially for someone who needs some quiet time to commune with the Lord in prayer before Mass begins.

Beginning the first Sunday of Advent,
November 30, 2025 in order to provide a quiet
space for those who want to silently pray
before mass and also a space for the
exuberant welcoming which is so much a part
of St. Cecilia, I ask that the left/south wing of
the church building (where the weekday chapel
is located) be kept as a "quiet" section before
Mass begins to provide that space for those
who seek it while the rest of the church building
can be used for greeting, catching up, telling
stories, hugging, etc.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Fr. Paul

## BULLETIN INSERTS FOR THE

#### **Hearing Scripture**

Imagine you're with a group of friends swapping stories about recent trips. But each of you brings a written copy for everyone else. When it's your turn, you don't tell the story while everyone listens. Instead, everybody pulls out your written account and reads along with you while you speak. Sound like fun? Sorry, that's not how we tell stories. Listening is an art as rich as reading. We still do it in classrooms, seminars, phone conversations and the living room. Lively interaction between speaker and listener means the speaker proclaims ideas and the listener gives attention. In that low-tech communication, human beings connect. The proclamation of Scripture recaptures the age-old art of speaking and listening. God's presence appears in the assembly as word. In actively listening to the Word of God, as we naturally do in conversation, we open our hearts to wonder. Technology has made the mass production of written materials more available now than ever. With little effort, Scripture readings can be placed in the hands of every worshiper. Advocates of this practice say it permits the worshiper to use sight, not just hearing. However, it's like having everyone read your trip story while you tell it. It can let the air out. The event requires both the proclamation of the reader and the eagerness of listeners. Hearing the word together bonds and expresses our community. If everyone reads the text silently, we become individuals again, with noses in our laps and faces turned down from one another. We'll hear the Word of God with better attention if we prepare. Worshipers can read the texts prior to coming to Mass and pray over them throughout the week before. We may also discuss them with family and friends. Then our ears will be open to listen attentively to the Word of God. All eyes will be fixed on the one who reads. And our hearts will be joined as one body of believers. When the divine word resounds in our assembly-heads up! And listen.

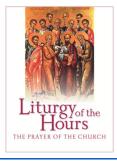
#### Praying the Liturgy of the Hours

The Liturgy of the Hours, also known as the Divine Office or the Work of God (Opus Dei), is the daily prayer of the Church, marking the hours of each day and sanctifying the day with prayer. The Hours are a meditative dialogue on the mystery of Christ, using scripture and prayer."

If you are interested in joining with other parishioners in praying Morning Prayer at 9 AM and/or Evening Prayer at 5 PM in the parish chapel Monday through Friday, please contact Rich Garcia at 239 936 3635 x 110 by November 30<sup>th</sup> and also indicate if you are willing to lead the prayer.



Use the QR code to learn about the Liturgy of the Hours.



St. Cecilia wants to say Thank you to those who sponsored Casino Night

#### Mitchell Dentistry Pat & Laura Agnew

Dr. Blaise Kovaz, MD, FACOG - Premier Women's Care of SW Fla.

The Petrucci Family Larry Snider State Farm Agency
Gulfcoast Coin & Jewelry Acqua Bella Pool Service
South Trail Tire & Auto Repair

#### Join Saint Cecilia's Children's Christmas Choir!

#### Rehearsals will be held on:



Sunday, December 7<sup>th</sup>: Noon-1:00 p.m. Sunday, December 14<sup>th</sup>: Noon-1:00 p.m. Sunday, December 21<sup>st</sup>: Noon-1:00 p.m.



The choir is open to all 1st-8th graders. Rehearsals will be held in the church immediately following the 11:00 Mass.

Parents of 1<sup>st</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> graders must be present with their children at rehearsals. Please make every effort to be on time and to attend <u>all</u> rehearsals.

We will be singing at the Christmas Eve Mass on Wednesday, December 24th at 4:00 p.m. \*

\*We will sing several preludes *before* the 4:00 p.m. Mass begins, and we will also sing after Communion.

The choir will be directed by Teresa Mitchell.

Questions?... Please contact Erin Neitzelt, Music Director, at 239-936-3635 x128.



← Sign Up Here





#### **SUNDAY SOCIAL PRESENTS**

3RD ANNUAL

## Holiday Cookie







8:30-10:30

Please join us for a cookie swap-bring 2 dozen homemade cookies or candy & go home with 2 dozen DIFFERENT homemade cookies or candy. If you are willing to share, bring your recipe too. If 2 dozen is too much for you, please talk to the volunteers at Sunday Social. We will provide the containers too!



Parish Hall: RSVP at Sunday Social, using the QR code or tuesdayshannon@gmail.com







In his letter to the Colossians, St. Paul reminds us that we have been made worthy to come into the kingdom of Jesus through his death on the cross and his rising to new life.

Jesus is the center of God's plan of creation: "All were created through him, and for him. He is before all else that is." Jesus is the "image of the invisible God," an obvious reference to Adam's creation in God's image. Jesus, then, is the ideal human being; he shows us our real potential as human beings because of God's great love.

Jesus is also the agent of redemption, the new creation. As he was the firstborn of all creatures, Jesus is also the firstborn from the dead. As all things were created in him, so he reconciles everything in his person. Today we acclaim him head of the Church and ruler of the universe

The Gospel reading reminds us that Jesus is King, and his throne is the cross. His kingship is one of love and sacrifice, not power and dominion.

While we join the Church in acclaiming Jesus as King, the Gospel reminds us that Jesus' reign is ultimately exercised in the mind and heart of each believer. Like the thief on the cross, each of us must recognize Jesus in faith. Like him, our prayer at the moment of death can be: "Jesus, remember me when you enter upon your reign." And Jesus, our redeemer and Lord, will respond with loving compassion: "This day you will be with me in paradise."

But we have work to do now for the building up of Jesus' kingdom. His kingdom is one of justice and peace for every person. Every person, regardless of race or creed or economic status, possesses dignity as an image of God. Everyone has a right and a responsibility to contribute his or her talents in the making of human society.

As faithful disciples of Jesus, you and I are asked to treat everyone with reverence and help them to recognize and respect their own dignity as an image of God. We can also make efforts to help transform our society to be more just and less violent.

May Jesus be King for us – the center of our hearts. May he transform us more completely in his image, so that we are better able to see his image in one another and in everyone we meet.



O God, when I have food, help me to remember the hungry;

When I have work, help me to remember the jobless;

When I have a home, help me to remember those who have do not.;

When I am without pain, help me to remember those who suffer, and remembering, help me to destroy my complacency; bestir my compassion, and be concerned enough to help, by word and deed, those who cry out for what we take for granted.



#### 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 over a PC.

For further information, visit the Diocesan website at <a href="www.dioceseofvenice.org/safeenvironment">www.dioceseofvenice.org/safeenvironment</a> 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, Susan Benton, at (941) 416 - 6114.



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)

Welcome our New Parishioners John & Angela Schaefer

#### **Scripture Readings For the Week**

Daniel 1:1-6, 8-20 Daniel 3:52-56 Luke 21:1-4 Monday **Tuesday** Daniel 2:31-45 Daniel 3:57-61 Luke 21:5-11 Wednesday Daniel 5:1-28 Daniel 3:62-67 Luke 21:12-19 **Thursday** Sir 50:22-24 Ps 145:2-11 1Cor 1:3-9 Luke 17:11-19 **Friday** Daniel 7:2-14 Daniel 3:75-81 Luke 21:29-33 Saturday Daniel 7:15-27 Daniel 3:82-87 Luke 21:34-36 Sunday Isaiah 2:1-5 Ps 122:1-9 Rom 13:11-14 Matt 24:37-44

You are invited to St. Cecilia

## Sunday Social 8:30-10:30 Parish Hall

Enjoy 5 kinds of juice, coffee, tea, doughnuts, bagels, fresh fruit, yogurts, eggs & a hot breakfast for a donation



Nov 9, 16 & 23

#### **Prayer Intentions**

Please go on line (Click on Link or 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 pub-You may also view the prayer intentions.

To view the list, hold Control & click on the Link or scan the QR code.



**Current Prayer Intentions** 







Saturday **NOV 22** 

> 4:00 PM † Joe Hanlon

> > by Dave & Jane Herrington

**NOV 23** Sunday

> 7:30 AM St Cecilia Parishioners 9:00 AM † Frank & Peggy Smith

> > by Rosalie Decker

11:00 AM † Mary Bernadette Boonstra

by Mary Jo Hobbs

Monday, **NOV 24** 

> 7:30 AM Priest's Intention

12:10 PM † Robbie Dillon by Mary Zalud

Tuesday, **NOV 25** 

> 7:30 AM Robert James Yuzuik

by Bob and Terry Yuzuik

12:10 PM † George Mushro by Irene Walsh

Wednesday, **NOV 26** 

> 7:30 AM † George Chatley by Nancy Zavada 12:10 PM

† Fr Stan Dombrowski

by Nancy Zavada

Thursday, **NOV 27** 

> 9:00 AM † Fr Stan Dombrowski By Joe & Teresa Mitchell

Friday, **NOV 28** 

9:00 AM Joan McGarry by Pat Benedict

12:10 PM † Arthur C Mager

by Barbara Pizzolato

Saturday **NOV 29** 

> 4:00 PM Happy 90th Birthday

to Dave Herrington

by Jane Herrington and Family

Sunday **NOV 30** 

> 7:30 AM † Dick Sardinha by Susan Sardinha

9:00 AM St Cecilia Parishioners

11:00 AM † Jack Kilmartin by his children

Scan QR code

for Daily Readings from USCCB



## The ${\mathcal S}$ anctuary ${\mathcal L}$ amp

The Light that Symbolizes the Eternal Sacrifice



In Memory of

Willie Mae DeFee

by Jim & Susan DeFee



### ARE HERE!

Purchase or pick up pre-orders
M - F, 8am - 4pm, in the Parish Office
or
Sundays after Mass in the Parish Hall.

Calendars are \$10.00 each Cash or checks accepted.

To purchase and pay by credit card scan the QR code



## Advent Event



### Sunday, December 14 8:30 am - 11:00 am in the Parish Hall All are welcome!



- COFFEE AND DONUTS
- PRAYER AND ACTIVITY STATIONS
- VISIT THE BETHLEHEM MANGER



#### **Attention Potential Christmas Ringers**

We need a few more helping hands to help us ring the handbells for Christmas Eve. We need three more people to join us in ringing so we can play our Christmas songs. YOU will be just perfect for the task!

Please stop and see Erin at the piano after Mass, or email her at eneitzelt@saintcecilias.net It will take a few short rehearsals and you can help us ring in the joy! Bells will be played at the Christmas Eve mass at 8:00 pm.



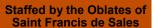
## The Knight's Corner

On November 2,2025, our Council hosted an All Saints Day hot dog, chips and beverage event for the children enrolled in Saint Cecilia's religious education program and their families. Knight Jeff Kiesel coordinated the program with the help of other Knights from our Council. A good time was had by all !! Our Council here at Saint Cecilia meets on the second Tuesday of every month in the Parish Hall at 7:00 PM. New members are always welcome so come see what you have been missing as an adult Catholic Christian.

George J. Hambel CPA Financial Secretary, gjhcpa@comcast.net







Catholic Community



Fr. Paul Dechant OSFS
Pastor

Fr. Francis J. Hanlon, OSFS Parochial Vicar

> Fr. Mike Matusz Retired Priest

**Pastoral Staff** 

Elvia Arana Coordinator of Pastoral Ministry

Denise Devine

Marian Hall Rentals

Rich Garcia **Administrative Assistant** 

Mark Goense

Marian Hall Maintenance

Patty Kiernan
Coordinator of
Religious Education

Sotiris Kaklamanis
Business Administrator

Debbie Laughlin
Coordinator of Worship

Erin Neitzelt Coordinator of Music

Maggie Remek
Youth Coordinator

Daxton Wellman Maintenance

#### 52 STORIES Tuesday Shannon

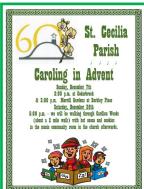
My first Mass at St. Cecilia's was also Father Tom Murphy's first Mass in 1994. At the time, I was a member of Resurrection Parish and had come to attend Mass with a colleague. I still recall the warm applause when Father Tom announced there would be no more second collections—a joyful moment that soon led me to make St. Cecilia's my spiritual home.

Years later, I was present for Father Stan's first Mass. As Father Tom introduced him, Father Stan stepped from the sacristy and humorously remarked, "I'm here to break up the Irish mafia of Murphy, Devlin, and Doyle." The congregation's laughter marked the beginning of what became a treasured friendship and many years of faith-filled ministry together.

With Father Stan and Father Devlin's guidance, we helped form a young adults' social group that fostered lasting friendships and a deeper sense of parish community. In the years that followed, Father Stan remained a constant presence in my family's life—officiating at our wedding and baptizing our children, even while we lived abroad.

Since returning to Fort Myers in 2016, I have been blessed to serve the parish as a Faith Formation assistant and later to help develop the Marian Hall rental program. Although I stepped away in 2024 to focus on family and community service, I remain active with Sunday Social. My husband, John, serves as an usher at the 4 p.m. Vigil Mass, while our children, Emi and John IV, continue to share their gifts through music and ministry during college.

For more than thirty years, St. Cecilia's has been a source of faith, friendship, and grace for our family. Our connection to St. Cecilia's—and the people who have shaped it—continues to be one of the greatest blessings of our family's life. Tuesday (Warmka) Shannon



#### We are going Caroling !!! COME AND JOIN US

Sunday, December 7 we will entertain the residents of Cedarbrook Rehab Center at 2:00 and the residents of Merrill Gardens at Barkley Place at 3:00 pm.

And on December 20 we are walking through Carillon Woods and, afterwards back at the Church, we will share hot cocoa and cookies in the Community Room.

Don't Miss the FUN!!



## Help us ensure St. Cecilia will continue to serve.

Donate Online at: www.SaintCecilias.org/Donate-Registration





MPLANT SURGEONS "The Best Surgeons in the Joint"

DAVID E. EICHTEN, D.O.

Regenerative Treatments, Robotic Surgery, Anterior Total hip Replacement Fellowship Trained Joint Replacement Orthopaedic Surgeon, Specializing in Hips, Knees and Shoulders (239) 337-2003, Ext. 9819

www.jointimplant.com 7331 College Parkway, Suite 300, Fort Myers



Get this bulletin emailed to you every week. Simply go to www.DM.CHURCH/4044...or scan

**<b>\***DISCOVERMASS

#### **ADVERTISE** HERE

**Promote your Business** AND Support your Parish.

Give us a call!

800-292-9111

Compliments of: The John Dickey Family



Catholic Values - Academic Excellence Advanced Technology - Competitive Athletics

Our class of 2004 graduates earned \$15 million in scholarships, with 59% of our Vikings continuing onto post-secondary education. Jeff Blair | 239-274-6788

Patty Holmes | 239-274-6760 Director of Admissions



Good Times, Great Food Sunday - Church Day Bring Your Bulletin. \$1.00 Donated For Each Meal to Education Fund

239-275-7850 · Fax: 239-274-3663 www.melsdiners.com

4820 Cleveland Ave. · Ft. Myer



Avery Murphy



239-936-7275

Home Made Sausage & Mozzarella

Hot & Cold Catering

**USDA Choice Cuts** Beef, Pork, Veal & Poultry

> 12326 Cleveland Ave. Fort Myers, FL 33907



#### Green Schoenfeld & Kyle LLP ATTORNEYS AT LAW

Kevin A. Kyle

Florida Board Certified Wills, Trusts & Estates Attorney Florida Board Certified Tax Attorney

1380 Royal Palm Square Blvd. · Fort Myers, FL 33919

239-936-7200

kevinkyle@gskattorneys.com



A graduate of St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church School & Bishop Verot Catholic High School

www.gskattorneys.com



Dr. Andrew Frey and his dental team provide affordable, comprehensive dental care exclusively to Uninsured Adults in the Fort Myers area.



9131 College Parkway 150, Fort Myers, FL 33919

39) 437-8900



Adult Exams & X-Rays (00150, D0210) - New Patients Only -

Excludes gum disease & patients with insurance. Must present coupon. Not valid with any other offers. Complimentary Second Opinion

Emergency Exam & X-Ray (D0140, D0220)

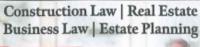
- New Patients Only -Excludes patients with insurance. Must present coupon. Not valid with any other offers.

Thank You For Voting For Us As Best Dental Clinic!



©2025 Diocesan

View Our Parish Supporters at www.DiscoverMass.com

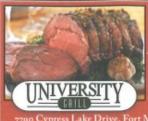


PAVESE LAW FIRM

Fort Myers (239) 334-2195 Cape Coral (239) 542-3148

PaveseLaw.com





WILLS AND TRUSTS

COME IOIN US! OPEN 7 DAYS WEEK AT 4PM Happy Hour Daily

239.437.4377 | theugrill.net



## Rana Holz

Board Certified in Marital & Family Law 1375 Jackson St., Ste. 304 Fort Myers, FL 33901

(239) 332-3400 · www.FLAFAMILYLAW.com



www.hesslerfloors.com Lee 239.936.6900 | Collier 239.597.2195 Charlotte 941.639.2610













PALUMBO

Fort Myers, FL 33912 FREE INITIAL CONSULTATION

Edison Auto Service Full Service - Repair 239-939-1447

28 Mildred Dr. Across From Edison Mall Serving Lee & Collier since 1980

EWTN.COM/RADIO



Karen Terbenche, REALTOR®

PA, ACCRS, CDPE | Parishioner Cell/Text 239.691.6169 | Office 239.542.1075

kterbenche@teamaubuchon.com

www.MiloffAubuchonRealty.com CAPE CORAL | FORT MYERS | ESTERO BONITA SPRINGS | NAPLES 

[1]

We Cater and Deliver!

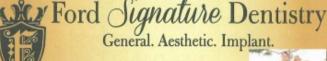


Personal

Injury

Order Onlin

13550 Reflection Parkwa @ Cypress Lake



(239) 936-5252

www.SmilesByDocFord.com

7630 Cambridge Manor Pl, Fort Myers, FL 33907



catholicmatch<sup>6</sup>

CatholicMatch.com/goFL



## **GIGLIOL**

DIFILIPPO & PICA

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

St. John XXIII Parishioners CGC1531772 / CCC1333698

Criminal

Defense

239-420-5472 | www.DPLawFL.com

Because Bad Things

Happen to Good People Too



Civil

Litigation

Larry D. Snider, CLU, ChFC

Agent 239-561-8599 Fax 239-561-8699



12995 S. Cleveland Ave. • Suite 103B Fort Myers, FL 33907

6843 Porto Fino Circle Fort Myers, FL 33912



(239) 437-1197

WLG THE WARNOCK LAW GROUP www.WarnockLawGroup.com

Wills • Trusts • Power of Attorney • Probate • Guardianship Special Needs • Pre/Post Nuptials • Corporate Formation

TASHA A. WARNOCK, ESQ., LL.M in Estate Planning & Elder Law in Estate Planning & Elder Law SCOTT A. CUMMINGS, ESQ.



#### ADVERTISE HERE

**Promote your Business** AND Support your Parish.

Jenny Lusk - 913-205-6387 ilusk@diocesan.com



125 S.E. 16th Pl. • Cape Coral, FL 33990

Medical/Surgical Dermatologist

Mitchell Dentistry General Dentistry James A Mitchell, DDS

Yolanda F Mitchell, DDS Joseph P Mitchell, DDS **Parishioners** 

(239) 939-5556 | www.MitchellDentist.com

Cosmetic • Implant • Restorative • Family 32 Barkley Circle, Fort Myers, FL 33907

View Our Parish Supporters at www.DiscoverMass.com



Dr. Janet F. Cheng

239.458.1131 • Fax: 239.458.7789

©2025 Diocesan



