

The 40 Days OF LENT

Saint Cecilia CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

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



Mass Schedule

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 to Friday 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Reconciliation - Saturday 2:30 PM - 3:30 PM & Thursday Family Adoration prior to First Friday from 7:00 PM in the Chapel - 8:00 PM or by appointment

Holy Day and Holiday Schedule:

Schedule will vary. Check the previous weekend's bulletin for information.

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: Adoration is this Friday, 8:00 am in the Chapel. Benediction is at 11:50 am. Family Adoration is held the Thursday prior to First Friday from 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm. Reconciliation is available during Family Adoration.

(Bulletin available at saintcecilias.org)

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.

FEBRUARY 22, 2026

WELCOME

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 allows for you to receive timely and essential communications through mail and our weekly Parish Email Update. Registrations also simplifies the process with regard to religious education; sponsoring a sacramental candidate; and for the planning and preparation of baptisms, weddings and funerals *and the reception of Sacraments for homebounds such as Eucharist and Anointing*. Seasonal Parishioners are also welcomed to Register and have dual membership.

Registration is easy and can be completed at the Parish Office during regular office hours or on our website: Registration form (saintcecilias.org)

Welcome to Our New Parishioners:
Rudy & Phyllis Forlenza

Summer/Fall Mass Time Changes (including a weekend mass time change!)

As has been our longtime practice here at St. Cecilia, after Holy Week our weekday mass schedule changes from daily masses M-F at both 7:30 AM and 12:10 PM (with Holy Day/Holiday exceptions) to MWF @ 7:30 AM and TuTh @ 12:10 PM.

This year there will be an additional, permanent (not seasonal) weekend Mass time change: **The last Sunday Mass will begin at 11:30 AM (NOT 11 AM) beginning April 12, 2026.** Since moving Faith Formation to between the 9 & 11 AM masses it has been a crunch to get the kids settled, have a lesson and get out in time for the 11 AM mass.

This change provides more time for Faith Formation classes and so gives catechists the time needed for more thoughtful and engaging lessons and makes it easier to fulfill required Religious Education hours/child/year. It also will better allow both adult and youth volunteers to participate in liturgical ministries, allow for adult Faith Formation to more easily coincide with the children's Faith Formation time and provides more time for set up and breaking down the spaces which may be used by multiple groups on a Sunday morning.

Certainly it will be a change of routine for people who have been coming to the 11 AM mass for years, decades or even scores of years, but this change is for the long term health and growth of the parish and hopefully you will be docile to making the adjustment to this change.

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, February 21

4:00 PM † Deceased Members of the Clarence Daugherty Family
by John & Denise Devine

Sunday, February 22

7:30 AM † Sally & William Carroll
by The Carroll Family
9:00 AM † Margaret Adams
by Gabriele Spangler
11:00 AM Saint Cecilia's Parishioners

Monday, February 23

7:30 AM Misael Duarte-Lezama
by Caludia Jones-Lezama
12:10 PM † Canada Styers
by Ginger McHale

Tuesday, February 24

7:30 AM John Antonelli
by Nancy Zavada
12:10 PM † Angela Pabon Lora
by Paula Lora

Wednesday, February 25

7:30 AM Amaru Lezama
by Claudia Jones-Lezama
12:10 PM † Audrey Stramara
by Jerry & Marge

Thursday, February 26

7:30 AM † John "Jack" Pryor
by His Family
12:10 PM † Jerry Olin
by The Olin Family

Friday, February 27

7:30 AM Priests' Intetntions
12:10 PM † Marion & Edward Hardiman
by Kathy Lydon

Saturday, February 28

4:00 PM † Fr. Stan Dombrowski
by Karen Ferraraccio

Sunday, March 1

7:30 AM Saint Cecilia's Parishioner
9:00 AM † Gerald Olin
by Donna Hauptman
11:00 AM † Paul Lambert
by Elsie McElligott

Scan QR Code For Daily Readings from USCCB



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Tina DeFee-Staten
By Jim & Susan DeFee





STRIKING THE BREAST

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Monday Lev. 19:1-12,11-18 Ps. 19:8-10,15 Matt. 25:31-46
Tuesday Isa. 55:10-11 Ps. 34:4-7,16-19 Matt. 6:7-15
Wednesday Jonah 3:1-10 Ps. 51:3,4,12,13,18,19 Luke 11:23-32
Thursday Esther C:12,14,16,23-25 Ps. 38:1-3,7,8 Matt. 7:7-12
Friday Ezeq. 18:21-28 Ps. 130:1-5,7,8 Matt. 5:20-26
Saturday Deut. 26:16-19 Ps. 119:1,2,4,5,7-8 Matt. 5:43-48
Sunday Gen. 12:1-4 Ps. 33:4,5,18,19,20,22
 2 Tim. 1:8-10 Matt. 17:1-9

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

Saturday, February 21
 2:30 - 3:30 pm Reconciliation.....CH

Sunday, February 22
 8:00 am - 1:00 pm Lee Health BloodmobilePARK
 8:30 - 10:30 am Sunday Social.....PH
 10:00 - 11:00 am Faith FormationPH
 10:00-11:00 am Walking With PurposePH

Monday, February 23
 12:45 pm Rosary.....CH

Tuesday, February 24
 8:30 am Men's Gospel Forum101
 10:30 am - 12:00 pm Walking With PurposePH
 12:45 pm RosaryCH
 1:00 - 2:00 pm Our Grief JourneyLIB
 7:00 - 8:00 pm Men's Gospel ForumPH
 7:00 - 8:00 pm CursilloPH

Wednesday, February 25
 12:45 pm RosaryCH
 10:30 am Funeral Pre-Planning WorkshopPH

Thursday, February 26
 10:00 am - 12:00 pm Rosary Making MinistryPH
 12:45 pm RosaryCH
 6:30 pm Choir RehearsalCR

Friday, February 27-  Abstinence
 8:00 am - 11:50 am AdorationCH
 10:00 am Divine Mercy Cenacle104
 4:30 - 6:30 pm Fish FridayMH
 7:00 pm Stations of the CrossChurch

Saturday, February 28
 2:30-3:30 pm Reconciliation.....CH

Sunday, March 1
 8:30 - 10:30 am Sunday Social.....PH
 10:00 - 11:00 am Faith FormationPH
 10:00-11:00 am Walking With PurposePH
 PH= Parish Hall CH= Chapel CR= Community Room MH=Marian Hall
 LIB=Library *Numeric Locations indicate a Room in the Parish Hall

When reciting the Confiteor at Mass, all strike their breast one time when saying, “through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault.” The gesture has always been part of the post-Vatican II Mass. Prior to the Council, the priest and servers recited the Confiteor to each other and struck their breast three times. The gesture was reduced to a single strike.

Also prior to the Council, people struck their breast during the Lamb of God and the “Lord, I am not worthy” before Communion. However, these gestures were not carried into the post-Vatican II Mass. Some people have struck their breast during the Kyrie and the Glory to God, but this was never officially requested.

Today, when the priest recites Eucharistic Prayer I, he strikes his breast when saying the words, “To us, also, your sinful servants.” Along with the Confiteor, these are the only two instances of striking the breast in the post-Vatican II Mass. In both cases, the gesture accompanies an acknowledgment of sin.

The gesture has biblical origins. In the Old Testament, women beat their breasts as a sign of loss—the maidens of Nineveh at the conquest of their city in the Book of Nahum (2:7), and the women of Jerusalem at the devastation of their pleasant fields and fruitful vines in Isaiah 32:12.

The New Testament offers two references, both in the Gospel of Luke, and these probably link more directly to the later liturgical practice. The tax collector, in contrast to the Pharisee, beats his breast while praying, “O God, be merciful to me a sinner” (18:13). Those who witnessed the death of Jesus on the Cross return home beating their breasts (23:48). When we strike our breasts during the Confiteor we acknowledge that we are sinners, and that our sins have consequences.

*From: The Parts of the Mass By: Fr. Paul Turner
 Other Resources by Fr. Paul Turner:
<https://paulturner.org/>*



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 % of Goal 123.73%
 % of Households..... 33.03%
 Total Payments \$298,978.78

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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 published).

You may also view the prayer intentions by holding Control & clicking on the Link, or simply scan the QR code. Click here, to submit Prayer Intentions



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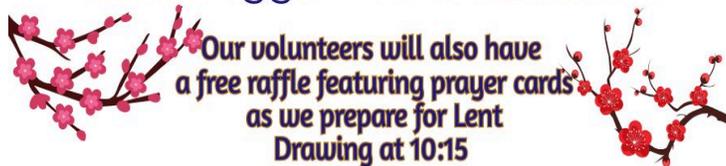
Please join us at

SUNDAY SOCIAL

FEBRUARY 22

8:30-10:30 In the Parish Hall

Join us for fellowship, friendly faces, and a delicious spread: coffee, tea, five kinds of juice, muffins, apple fritters, filled doughnuts, three kinds of bagels, fresh fruit, yogurt, and hard-boiled eggs — for a donation.



Our volunteers will also have a free raffle featuring prayer cards as we prepare for Lent
Drawing at 10:15

SAFE ENVIRONMENT TRAINING

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 finger printed (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 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, Susan Benton, at (941) 416-6114.



**OBLATES OF
ST FRANCIS DE SALES**

Today's Gospel focuses on the temptations of Christ. St. Francis de Sales notes: Our Lord did not seek temptation. Yet, He allowed the Spirit to lead Him into the desert to be tempted to show us how we ought to resist it. No one who comes to serve God can avoid temptations. But no one should seek temptation. Still, if the Spirit leads us to a place where we encounter it, we must have confidence in the Spirit to strengthen us.

As soon as you are conscious of being tempted, be like children when they see a bear out in the country. They immediately run into the arms of their father or mother, or at least call to them for help and protection. Turn in the same way to God, for we must not trust in our own strength or courage to overcome evil. If the temptation continues, turn your thoughts to some good, commendable activities. When good thoughts enter and find a place in your heart, they will drive away evil thoughts.

No matter what temptations may come to you, and no matter what pleasure accompanies them, as long as you refuse consent, they do not offend God. Let the enemies of our salvation stand continually at our heart's door so as to gain entrance. As long as this act of refusal remains in our heart, we may rest assured that divine love, the life of the soul, remains within us. Through continual prayer, the sacraments, and confidence in God, our strength will return, and we will live a healthy and happy life.

Walk confidently, then, and remain in peace. Live well in gentleness, simplicity and humility. If you believe in God and the truth of God's word, nothing can harm you. Resolve not to sin, but do not be astonished or troubled when you do fall into sin. We must confide ourselves to the goodness of God who, for all that, does not love us less.

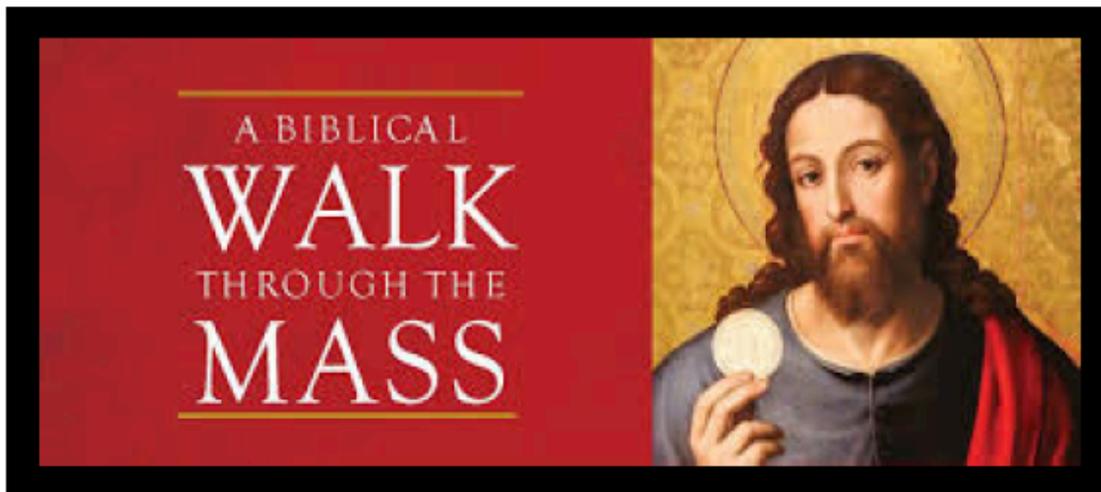
(Adapted from the Writings of St. Francis De Sales.)



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Thursdays 10 am and 7 pm
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5 sessions - 2/26, 3/5, 3/12, 3/19, 3/26

Registration
deadline
Ash Wednesday
2/18





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THE KNIGHTS CORNER

February 18th ASH WEDNESDAY is the start of this year's Lenten season, and our Council will be involved in some of its activities. The Parish Lenten Mission led by our Chaplin Father Mike on March 2,3 and 4 at 10:45AM and 7:00PM. The Friday Night Fish Fry, every Friday in the Parish Hall at 5PM except Good Friday.

So, what better time for our Council and Parish to remember our founder the Blessed Father Michael J. McGivney with a prayer for his Canonization.

"God, our Father, protector of the poor and defender of the widows and orphan, you called your priest, Blessed Michael McGivney, to be an apostle of Christian family life and to lead the young to the generous service of their neighbor. Through the example of his life and virtue, may we follow your Son, Jesus Christ, more closely, fulfilling his commandment of charity and building up his Body which is the Church. Let the inspiration of your servant prompt us to greater confidence in your love so that we may continue his work of caring for the needy and the outcast. We humbly ask that you glorify Blessed Michael McGivney on earth with Canonization according to the design of your holy will through Christ our Lord. Amen."

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 see what you have been missing as an adult Catholic Christian.

George J. Hamble, CPA

Financial Secretary, gjhcpa@comcast.net

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

RAFFLE WINNERS

Name	Prize
Yanisleidy Rodriguez-Valdes	Edison Ford Estate Tickets
Edward Kiesel	\$50 KJ's Gift Card
Linda Chandler	\$50 Gift Cert. University Grill
Herb Reinhold	\$50 Cash + Bowling
Earlene Tomzak	Everblades Tickets
Chris Stewart	\$50 Gift Cert. Lazy Flamingo
Kristy Dziubek	\$100 Gift Cert Izzy's

**Thanks for your help, we still need
dessert donations!**



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DESSERTS SHOULD BE DROPPED OFF THE " DAY OF "
AT THE PARISH OFFICE UNTIL 2PM OR AT MARIAN HALL 2PM-4PM

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