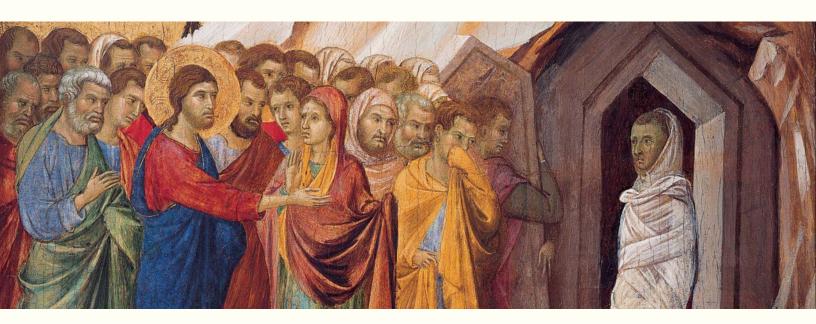
ST. CECILIA CHURCH

DIGITAL NEWSLETTER



ONLINE MASS TIMES

Daily (Mon - Sat): 8:00 am English Sunday:

9:00 am English 10:45 am English 12:00 pm Spanish

Live stream available on:

- Parish website
- <u>Facebook</u>
- YouTube
- Roku coming soon!

PASTOR'S LETTER

FROM FR. CARY RENIVA

"UNTIE HIM AND LET HIM GO"

"When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days" (John 11:17)

This is a poignant and heartbreaking scene. Lazarus was already in tomb. The tomb, in the eyes of many, is the end of it all. It is the point of no return.

An interesting detail that was given to us is that Lazarus had been already in the tomb for four days. Jews believed that after three days, the soul has left the body. It means there would be no trace of "life". A body is reduced to a cadaver. There was no more hope for Lazarus. This is what Martha meant when she said, "by now there will be a stench". (cont.)

FR. CARY'S LETTER CONT.

No matter what "tombs" (addictions, vice, sin, despair, hopelessness, pandemics, etc) one might have entered into, and no matter how many people say that it's too late for any act of redemption because "by now there will be a stench", the power of Christ has the final word. The command of the Lord "come out" has the power to bring us back to life.

I am edified by the fact that God "asked for help" when he restored Lazarus back to life. Jesus asked people to help him remove the stone that covered the tomb of Lazarus. God is ultimately the one who brings new life, but we can be conduits, collaborators to God's grace. To whom God is sending you to remove the stone of someone who is in a "tomb"? Or is there someone who can remove the stone of your own tomb?

"Untie him, and let him go." God continues to involve us in bringing other people to life. There is so much darkness and despair due to the current pandemic. People are wrapped up in fear. The rising number of people diagnosed as positive of the virus and the steady rise of death tolls can bring about desolation and hopelessness. But we continue to hear alongside death tolls, stories of hope, selflessness and grace especially from those who are in the frontlines like our doctors and nurses. I was just reading the story of a COVID-19 patient Dom Guiseppe Berardelli, a 72year Italian priest, who gave up his ventilator to give to a younger patient. The priest eventually died. There are myriad ways in which we can "untie" other people wrapped up in hopelessness. Is there something that ties you up right now?

- Fr. Cary

SUGGESTIONS

Please let us know how we can be serving you better through our communications. Contact Amanda Jewett at ajewett@stceciliachurch.org

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, March 29
9:00 AM - + Mike Morrisroe
10:45 AM - + Ester Udarbe, Deacon Bill
and Margarita Richardson
12:00 PM - Cristal Ruvalcaba, Tiago,
Cira Hernandez, Ruperto Herrera,
Ruben Arellano

Monday, March 30 8:00 AM - + Tuan Do

Tuesday, March 31 8:00 AM - + Donna Schuetze

Wednesday, April 1 8:00 AM - + Joanne Warren

Thursday, April 2 8:00 AM - Souls in Purgatory

Friday, April 3 8:00 AM - + Leonard Bernhardt

Saturday, April 4 8:00 AM - Jerald Savariaradimai

STEWARDSHIP

We are so very grateful and appreciative for your continuous support of our parish needs!

For those who typically drop their offertory envelopes or tithe into the collection basket on Sundays, feel free to mail your offertory envelopes and tithes to our parish office at 5105 SW Franklin Ave, Beaverton, OR, 97005.

You can also tithe online by clicking here: <u>stceciliachurch.org/donate</u> Thank you for your generosity during this time!

CARE MINISTRY

At St. Cecilia's, we care deeply for our senior parishioners. During this difficult time, if you know someone we should reach out to, please contact us. jphillips@stceciliachurch.org, 503-644-2956 x174

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

SVDP will take any donations of non-perishable food (no specific request at this time).

Donations would have to be delivered to the food pantry between the hours of 9 and 11 am.

Young and healthy volunteers are needed at our St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry for various tasks during this time.

- Two volunteers per 9-11 am time slots M-F
- Two volunteers for night boxes 6-7 pm. M-Thurs
- Move boxed frozen and canned items (40-50 lbs max) and sorting, Wednesdays 9-11 am
- collect donations from Trader Joes every day, transfer weighted boxes transferred from the truck into the pantry M-F

Please contact Bridget Kyle at bridgetmkyle@gmail.com if interested.

OFFICE UPDATES

The Parish Office is closed to the public and for any in-person business. Parish staff will still be working our regular office hours, so please get a hold of us over the phone or through e-mail.

The Adoration Chapel remains open for the time being. Occupancy must be limited to no more than 5 people at a time, in addition to 6 feet of distance between others. Our maintenance staff will continue to sanitize the chapel daily

AN ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

My Jesus,
I believe that You
are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.
I love You above all things,
and I desire to receive You into my soul.
Since I cannot at this moment
receive You sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart. I
embrace You as if You were already
there and unite myself wholly to You.
Never permit me to be separated from
You.

Amen.

FAMILY RESOURCES

FOR PRESCHOOLERS

FROM AIMEE HENLEY

- <u>Preparing a Prayer Environment in the Home</u> (link)
- <u>Liturgical Color Song (link)</u>

FOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

FROM AMY MARIS-VOLF

Here are good resources for the families to continue to grow their faith at home together.

- St. Mary's Press (link)
- <u>Tips for Attending Mass at home with</u> kids

FOR PRETEENS AND TEENS

FROM AMANDA JEWETT

Watch the video below!



EXPLORE THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

FOR FAMILIES, TAKEN FROM 52 SUNDAYS

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

The Raising of Lazarus - JN 11:1-45 OR JN 11:3-7, 17, 20-27, 33B-45

The sisters of Lazarus sent word to Jesus, saying, "Master, the one you love is ill." When Jesus heard this he said, "This illness is not to end in death, but is for the glory of God, that the Son of God may be glorified Through it." Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. So when he heard that he was ill, he remained for two days in the place where he was. Then after this he said to his disciples, "Let us go back to Judea."

When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went to meet him; but Mary sat at home. Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that whatever you ask of God, God will give you." Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise." Martha said, "I know he will rise, in the resurrection on the last day." Jesus told her, "I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" She said to him, "Yes, Lord. I have come to believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, the one who is coming into the world."

He became perturbed and deeply troubled, and said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Sir, Come and see." And Jesus wept. So the Jews said, "See how he loved him." But some of them said, "Could not the one who opened the eyes of the blind man have done something so that this man would not have died?"

So Jesus, perturbed again, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone lay across it. Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the dead man's sister, said to him, "Lord, by now there will be a stench; he has been dead for four days." Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believe you will see the glory of God?" So they took away the stone. And Jesus raised his eyes and said, "Father, I thank you for hearing me. I know that you always hear me; but because of the crowd here I have said this, that they may believe that you sent me." And when he had said this, He cried out in a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" The dead man came out, tied hand and foot with burial bands, and his face was wrapped in a cloth. So Jesus said to them, "Untie him and let him go."

Now many of the Jews who had come to Mary and seen what he had done began to believe in him.

TAKE TIME TO CHAT

- What would it have been like to witness Jesus raising Lazarus from the dead?
- Jesus was friends with Martha, Mary, and Lazarus. What do you think they talked about?
- Jesus loves you just as he loved Lazarus, and he wants to be your friend. Do you want to be friends with Jesus?

LITURGY LINK

Which of the following gestures do we do when the Gospel is proclaimed by the priest or deacon - sit, stand, or kneel? Why do we do that?

FAMILY PRAYER

Heavenly Father,

Spring is a time of change.

Some changes we eagerly await and some we fear. Some changes we plan, and others arrive uninvited.

To all these changes, we ask the gift of your Holy Spirit to help us meet these changes with expectation, hope, and rebirth. May the sunlight and the rain be reminders that you are at work renewing the earth. As a God of renewal, you are ever at work in our lives, too. Open our eyes to the needed changes in our lives this spring. For this we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.