
About Our Church

St. Cecilia Roman Catholic Church is located in St. Mary's City, MD.

Our Pastor is Fr. Larry Swink

The Assistants are Deacon Tony Sweeney & Deacon Mark Kijesky

CONTACT INFORMATION

Sacramental/Last Rite Emergencies: (240) 844-2550

Address: 47950 Mattapany Road, P.O. Box 429, St. Mary's City, MD 20686

Phone: (301) 862-4600

E-mail: stcecilia@md.metrocast.net

Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday from 9:00am – 2:00pm

The office will be closed on Thursdays, Holy Days and Federal Holidays.

Other Contact information

St. Peter Claver: 301-872-5460

St. Michael Church: 301-872-4321

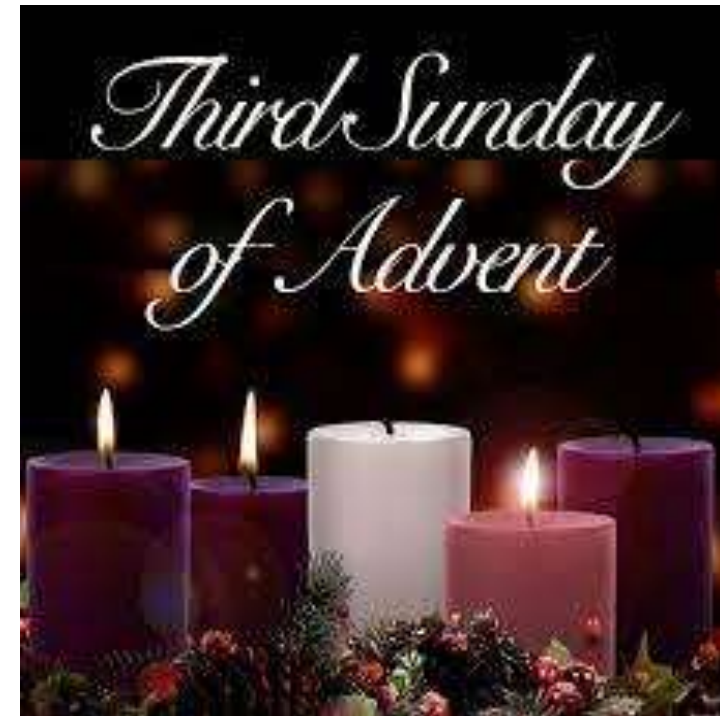
Catholic Cemeteries: 301-475-5005 or 301-932-1766

WELCOME TO

St. Cecilia Church

December 12, 2021

The Third Sunday of Advent



Prayer Intentions

Please remember all who have asked for our prayers: Janet Gilloly, Rhea Cosgrove, Joe Owens, Anita Tate, Peggy Barickman, James Thompson, Cecilia Plymale, Mary Destefano, Joseph and Kathleen Notoro, Gerald Adkinson, Virginia Alice, Ernie, Kristin Austin, Jim Ballantine, Ivan Barnes, Joyce Bean, Cathy Bush, Carla and Adam, Annie Carroll, Ted Carroll, Francis Carroll, Robert Carter, Steven Carter, Colleen Clair, Nancy Cotter, Judy Collins, Debi Clark, Joey Cosgrove, Jack Cullison, Celia DeVoe, Erica Dingle, Ed Dishman, Eileen Garvey, Mary Glynn, Mary Gorman, Hannah Gravelle, Jeff Harris Family, James Hensley, John Jovan, Bambi Kwiatkoski, Lynn, John Lolli, Adam Lumpkins, Helen Lococo, Shirley D. Major, Dennis MacQuilliam, Bill Morris, James Morris, Eileen Peterson, Angie Prucha, Bill Rayle, Don Robinson, Frances Reddix, Clarence Rose, Ellen Rose, Jacob Remis, Joel Rivera, Kimberly Sariego, Tiny Taylor, John F. Thompson, Kurt Unangst, Susan Windburn, Lisa, Donna Burriss, Elaine McNeil, Tara Sewell, Doris Rose Yates, James Young, Eva Butler, Francis Birch, Evan Beck, Michael Hammett Jr., Andrew Farrand, Joe Dziewit. We thank God for the many people He has healed, bodies, minds, *and* souls.

Mass Intentions for December 11– December 18

Saturday	4:30 PM	For the peaceful repose of the soul of Francis Taylor
Sunday	8:00 AM	For the intentions of our parishioners.
Monday	7:30 AM	For the intentions of John Dochad
Tuesday	7:30 AM	For the intentions of Susan Orlowski
Wednesday	7:30 AM	For the intentions of Marty Orlowski
Thursday	7:30 AM	For the intentions of M.J. Orlowski
Friday	7:30 AM	For the intentions of Erik & Allison Hasham
Saturday	8:00 AM	Mass at St. Peter Claver

Those who help prepare for and present the Mass each weekend:

Masses: December 18, 4:30pm Saturday December 19, 8:00am Sunday
Readers: Walter Carroll Bernie Goldsborough
Ushers: B. Tarleton, P. Quade, & W. Carroll L. Dean, J. Fenwick, & M. Thumm
Decorations: Sharon Chadwick

Mass & Confession Time

Saturday Vigil: 4:30 PM
 Sunday Morning: 8:00am
 Weekday Mass: Monday – Friday 7:30am
 Daily Adoration: Monday - Friday 6:00am – 7:15am; Monday 4:00pm – 6:00pm
 Weekly Rosary: Tuesday 6:30pm
 Weekly Confession: Saturdays 3:00pm – 4:00pm and by appointment

Latin Mass at St Cecilia – Monday at 6:00pm with Adoration beginning at 4:00pm
Spiritual Direction – Available at St Cecilia’s on Mondays from 4:00 – 5:30pm and at St Peter Claver on Wednesdays from 4:00 – 5:00pm. Please see the Parish website for links to sign up.

Morning Offering: O Jesus, through the Immaculate Heart of Mary, I offer you my prayers, works, joys, and sufferings of this day. For all the intentions of Thy Sacred Heart, in union with the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass throughout the world, in reparation for my sins, for the reunion of Christendom and for the Holy Father’s intentions of the month.
December: Universal Intention: Intention of Evangelization: Catechists: Let us pray for the catechists, summoned to announce the Word of God: may they be its witnesses, with courage and creativity and in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Announcements & Events

- **We want to thank all of you** for your generous contributions! There will be a second collection on the weekend of December 18-19 for the Retired Religious Fund.

-**CORRECTED SCHEDULE FOR CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S MASSES** – Please be aware that the schedule has changed for the Christmas Eve Mass, December 24, at St Cecilia's from 6:00pm to 4:30pm. The midnight Mass at St Ignatius on December 25 will be in Latin. New schedules can be found in the vestibule and on our website.

- **HIGH SCHOOL RETREAT** - High School Students are invited to sign up for Sacred Heart's 2nd High School Winter Retreat at Loyola on the Potomac from December 27-29. This retreat is open to all students in high school. The retreat begins Monday evening and concludes Wednesday morning and will include Mass, Confessions, Adoration, opportunities for spiritual direction. The retreat fee is \$185. Scholarships are available. For more information and to sign up, contact Anna Albrittain at aalbrittain@sacredheartlapalata.org. or call 301-934-2261.

-**WOMEN'S NIGHT OF REFLECTION** with Father Larry Swink on Tuesday, December 14th at St. Cecilia's in St. Mary's City at 7pm. "Got hope? – It's Unshakeable!" How can we take captive our thoughts and allow our hearts to live in hope? The one who has hope lives differently. We invite all women to come and be strengthened in the virtue of hope. Evening includes Eucharistic Adoration, talk, Confession and healing prayers.

-**LITTLE SISTERS OF THE POOR COLLECTION DAY** -The next collection is scheduled for Saturday, 18 December 2021 from 10AM-12 noon. Let's have another strong turnout as we did in November! Little Sisters locations: Baltimore: <https://goo.gl/maps/iQiRxjJzYSMYS5vw5> or Washington, DC: <https://goo.gl/maps/Bh1wiT3gcLuQBhSs6> . The Washington home is in special need of: Staples papers - 8x11", 902 xl black cartridge, 902 multicolor, hp 12a black standard cartridge, hp 85a standard black cartridge, hp 60xl black and color cartridge, hp 63xl black and color cartridge, hp 35a black cartridge, paper mate liquid paper correction fluid white, rubber bands, black and blue pens, scotch tape, bouton optical lens cleaner, brother tn-350 black cartridge, sheet protectors, two side pocket folder and binders 1 and 2in with inside pockets.

- **CHRISTMAS CONCERT** – At Sacred Heart Church in LaPlata, will host a Christmas Concert on Sunday, December 19, 2021 at 5:00PM. The Sacred Heart Choir will be joined by St. Peter Claver Gospel Choir, The Madrigals of the Chesapeake Choral Arts Society, and Libation to help prepare us for the coming of Jesus through their music. Reception will follow in the Friendship Room. All are invited!

- **SURVIVING DIVORCE COURSE** - Immaculate Heart of Mary is offering a 12 week course called "Surviving Divorce". This is a small group setting, lay person-lead group that is created to bring hope and healing to those who have experienced the pain of divorce. We will meet once a week on Sunday evenings from 6:30 to 8pm, beginning January 16 at IHM. The material is faithful to Catholic teachings and features such experts as Fr. Donald Calloway, Fr. Mitch Pacwa and Christopher West. A donation of \$25 is requested to cover the cost of the workbook, but can be waived based on financial need.

-**YOUTH RALLY AND MASS FOR LIFE** - Each year, the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Washington hosts the Youth Rally and Mass for Life, inviting groups from across the country to celebrate the gift of human life and to advocate on behalf of the unborn. The *Youth Rally and Mass for Life* will be held live from Capital One Arena on *January 21, 2022*, beginning at 8:00 AM (doors will open at 7:30 AM). There will also be a virtual event for groups that are not able to attend live. Go to <https://adwyouth.org/rally-and-mass-for-life> for more information.

-**FIRST ANNUAL PRO-LIFE ART CONTEST** - The Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Washington will be hosting the first annual pro-life art contest! Submissions are due on January 21, 2022 and will include protest art, visual art, and video art. Please see the attached flyer for more information, and please share the attachments on social media! For more information, contact prolife@adw.org or visit <http://youthrallyandmassforlife.org/> .

-**AFGHAN REFUGEES** - The United States Catholic Conference of Bishops is providing support to Afghan refugees at a military base in Quantico. USCCB is in need of donations of school supplies, coloring books, crayons, sidewalk chalk, and balls for hundreds of Afghan children at the military base. They also need donations of winter clothes and backpacks for women and men. If your parish groups would like to assist Afghan refugees please contact Peggy Arizzi at: USCCBleadQuantico@USCCB.org . Many Afghans were given special immigration visas which entitle them to some income and public benefits and many were given humanitarian parole which entitles them to NO benefits, NO ongoing income support. Homes Not Borders are helping Afghan refugees with humanitarian parole try to survive – they are dropped into Prince George's County with almost no support. Homes Not Borders is seeking parish assistance to sponsor families. See their website: <https://www.homesnotborders.org/> . In October the nonprofit is helping 12 Afghan families who need donations and more support. Laura Osuri is the founder and Director. Email address: laura@homesnotborders.org .

Happy Gaudete Sunday!

We are two weeks away from Christmas, and we are to reflect on the gift of Joy...What is joy? One Catholic definition of Joy is:

"The passion opposed to sadness, and arising from the possession of a desired or coveted object; one of the fruits of the Holy Ghost; an effect also of contemplating the sacred mysteries of the Resurrection, Ascension, and Coming of the Holy Ghost."

So joy is the effect of happiness that comes from living our faith to the fullest. Who lived joy to the fullest? Mother Teresa once said:

"Joy is a sign of generosity. When you are full of joy, you move faster and you want to go about doing good to everyone."

Saints went through many trials and tribulations, temptations, etc., but as St. Josemaria Escriva says: **"The saints were not abnormal beings or cases to be studied by a modernistic doctor.**

They were normal--of flesh, like yours and mine."

Saints accepted successes and failures with great trust in God. They struggled, but they did so cheerfully! I will pray for all of you, my parish family, during this holy season.

***Peace,
Fr. Larry***