

SACRED HEART CHURCH

111 Third Ave
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 E-mail: SH Tribes@rcda.org
 Office Hours
 Mon & Wed, 9am to 2pm

April 28, 2024

SAINT CECILIA CHURCH

26 Broadway
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 Fonda, NY 12068
 518-853-4195
 E-mail: SCFonda@rcda.org
 Office Hours
 Tues & Thurs, 9am to 2pm

Deacon Joseph Cechnicki, Parish Life Coordinator
Joseph.Cechnicki@rcda.org
Father Juanito Asprec, Parochial Vicar
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REMAIN IN ME.

JOHN 15:4

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

~ To access our bulletin online go to: [www. parishesonline.com](http://www.parishesonline.com) ~

~ Find both parishes on Facebook: ~ StCecilia Church ~ Sacred Heart Church ~

This week's message is part of a reflection by Fr. Peter Chepaitis.

We have all been wounded by the scandal of a few priests, ministers & coaches who have sinned by abusing their power in relationship to adults, teens and even children. Our world has been threatened by leaders of nations who disregard the rights & the humanity of their neighbors and their citizens. The Good Shepherd shows us how to respond, since he was himself threatened with death as a child and abused by religious leaders and political bureaucrats as an adult.

He simply forgave. He did not excuse the wrong, the first stage of recovery is often to be very angry at the evil that is done. To forgive is not at all the same as to excuse. There is no excuse for abuse, or for terror or unprovoked war. Evil must be condemned and its victims protected. But Jesus condemned sin without rejecting the sinner. The God revealed by the prophets of Israel did the same. Good parents know the difference. they can forgive their children, even when they do not excuse their behavior when it is destructive.

To forgive as Jesus did, in the face of the evil that has been exposed in our own Church family and in the world, I must begin by forgiving myself, or rather I must let Jesus forgive me for being a part of such a wounded family, nation & world.

That's only possible, I believe, when I realize that even when I am too hurt and angry to forgive, the God revealed by Christ still has the power and desire to forgive. Sometimes I have to pray: "I can't forgive, but you, God, can. I will let you do it today. " To forgive means simply to let Jesus be the Shepherd, to give him the job of figuring it all out and of being a just and merciful judge. It means to refuse to act like those who have hurt me, and it means refusing to pass the abuse on by condemning without looking for the whole truth.

I would like to thank Fr. Peter for allowing me to reprint part of his reflection. For anyone who would like to read the entire document or receive his weekly reflections please send your email to him at bethmin@midtel.net.

God Bless,

Deacon Joe



† Altar wine at *Sacred Heart* for the month of *May* has been sponsored at the request of *Ron & Cathy Parry*.

† Altar hosts at *Sacred Heart* for the month of *May* have been sponsored at the request of *Ron & Cathy Parry*.

† Altar wine at *Saint Cecilia* for the month of *May* has been sponsored *in loving memory of Marie Cranker* at the request of *John & Sheila Cranker*.

† Altar hosts at *Saint Cecilia* for the month of *May* have been sponsored *in loving memory of Norbert & Verna Bicheler* at the request of *John & Sheila Cranker*.

MASS SCHEDULE

Sat. Apr 27, 4:00 pm (SH) - 1.) † *In loving memory of Stephen V. Bilins, requested by his wife Barbara.*

2.) † *In loving memory of Steve, Helen & Richard Pawloski, requested by Barb Minch & family.*

3.) † *For the repose of the soul of Angela Spagnola.*

Sun. Apr 28, 9:00 am (SC)- † *In memory of Sean Thomas, requested by Kim Egan & Pete Knapik.*

Tue. Apr. 23 thru Sun. Apr. 28, 2024

Tue. Apr 30, 8:00 am (SH) - *For the people of the parish.*

Wed. May 1, 8:00 am (SC) - *For the people of the parish.*

Thurs. May 2, 8:00 am (SH) - *Prayers & blessings for the entire Parry family, requested by Ron & Cathy.*

Fri. May 3, 8:00 am (SC) - † *In loving memory of Norbert & Verna Bicheler, requested by John & Sheila Cranker.*

Sat. May 4, 4:00 pm (SH) - † *In memory of Ray Knapik, requested by Barbara Krawiecki & family.*

Sun. May 5, 9:00 am (SC) - 1.) † *In loving memory of Bailey Alexandria Field, requested by Mom, Dad & Sammy.*

2.) † *In memory of Alex & Betty Adesse, requested by their daughters.*

3.) *For our confirmands, Colin, Cohen, Grace & Sigourney; may the Lord guide them on their faith journey, requested by Michele Furnare.*

DIOCESAN APPEAL 2023-2024 **CONTRIBUTIONS TO DATE**

PARISH:	SH	SC
ASSESSMENT	7923.00	5000.00
CONTRIBUTIONS	7932.00	2665.00
BALANCE	00.00	2335.00

COLLECTIONS TOTALS

APR 20-21, 2024—WEEKEND TOTALS:

COLLECTIONS:	SH	SC
WEEKLY COLLECTION	590.00	903.00
OTHER	30.00	105.00
FUNDRAISING	148.05	00.00
PARISH TOTAL	768.05	1008.00

Mass Intentions: Mass Intentions are needed for both parishes. Having a Mass celebrated for a person or a specific request has a long history in the Catholic Church. Requesting a Mass is not only a sign of your own faith and flourishing, but of your heart for those who these Masses are intended.

Lector/Eucharistic Ministers

Apr 27 (SH)	Cathy Parry Chris Caffrey	May 4 (SH)	Mark Caffrey Kathy Avery
Apr 28 (SC)	Ann Mahon Ken Stuff	May 5 (SC)	Kathy Marcais Michele Furnare

Counters Schedule

Apr 29 (SH)	Kathy Avery Wendy Hall	May 6 (SH)	Barb Bilins Noreen Brownell
Apr 29 (SC)	Lorna Quinn Flo Stanton	May 6 (SC)	Sandy Hayes Kathy Marcais

Food Pantry



May 1 (SH)	Jamie Lemiszki John Nigro
May 22 (SC)	Andrea Moran Louise Carville Michele Furnare



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Confirmation: Confirmation will be held on Thursday, May 2nd at the Auriesville Shrine Colosseum. Procession is at 6:30 pm.

Who's Ready For Delicious Pie?: Our Pie raffle at Sacred Heart is **BACK!!**, with a parishioner donating a pie each week. Please sign up to show off your baking prowess with a pie donation, and please buy a ticket to the raffle as the proceeds are solely for the *restoration of our church hall*.

Healing Mass: The First Thursday of each month we invite you at Sacred Heart's Church at 630 PM for a Healing Mass, Short Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, Anointing with Sacred Oil & Rosary prayer, a Potluck Refreshment and a chance to meet parishioners. Please bring your family & friends!

Please note that this **Thursday May 2nd**, the Healing Mass will be at **8:00am** due to Confirmation.

St. Cecilia's Church Restoration Fund: If you would like to remember or honor a loved one, please consider making a contribution to St. Cecilia's Church Restoration Fund. All donations will be used to preserve our beautiful church property. Thank you for your generosity.

A Mini-Retreat: SAVE THE DATE! Join St. Stephen's Church on **Sunday May 5, 2024 at 9:00AM** (after the 8:00AM Mass) for the Mini-Retreat, "*Discovering the Heart of Jesus*" with reflections on the Miracle of the Eucharist. Meet in the Church Hall, 5 Pawling Ave, Hagaman. There is no cost to attend. However, registration is appreciated. Also please feel free to invite a friend. For more information or to register, call **Jeanne Pitkin at (518)842-0972** or **Josie Spurduto at (518)843-2907** by Wednesday May 1st.

First Holy Communion/Retreat Day: First Holy Communion will be on Sunday, June 9th. Therefore retreat day will be Saturday, June 8th from 10am—3pm. Thank you for your patience with the scheduling.

St. Cecilia's Parking Lot Fundraiser We have 4 dates for parking this year. Please call/text Kelly @ 518 774 7250 to volunteer. The dates are as follows...

Sat. May 18

Sat. June 15

Thurs. Aug. 29 (fair)

Sat. Sept 14

Spaces For Tribes Hill Garage Sale- Memorial Day Wknd: Sacred Heart will be renting spaces to vendors for the weekend. Spaces will be \$25. per day. Call the parish office @ 518 829 7301 for space rental or more information.

Upcoming Second Collections:

May 4/5 - Repair/Maintenance

May 9 - Ascension

May 18/19 - Repair/Maintenance

May 25/26—European Relief



*The Sanctuary Lamp at Sacred Heart
burns this week with special intention*

GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

April 28, 2024 - 5th Sunday of Easter

My friend and fellow pastor, Father Paul, noticed unsightly, overgrown trees near his parish church. He asked the maintenance crew to cut back the growth, which they happily did, telling him the trees would be much healthier and even fuller after a good pruning. A few days later, Father Paul received a letter from an irate man in the neighborhood who wrote, "Jesus would never prune trees like that. He loves trees, unlike you."

I suspect that the neighbor was not familiar with this week's Gospel in which Jesus says of his Father, "He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit" (John 15:2) I don't mean to pick too much on that fellow. He was perhaps ignorant of arboriculture. But I'd wager his main confusion was the pruning and removing quality of God's love. That confusion afflicts us all to some degree, doesn't it? It is just so darn easy to react negatively when God cuts something out of our lives and assume it's not his work at all. In the moment, all we see is the loss, and not the loving desire for future flourishing.

The cross is the great pruning of Christ's body. Jesus' rising is the brand-new growth. It is God's promise to us that all the painful pruning in life is leading us somewhere beautiful. What has been cut back or out in your life? A friend, an opportunity, a sense of certainty, a job, health, a relationship? This week, offer those dry branches to the one who lovingly prunes us in order to make our lives burst with verdant growth.

-Father John Muir

©LPi



OUR LADY OF
MARTYRS
SHRINE

Fultonville, NY
Coliseum Mass 3:00 pm

May 5 *Fr. DeMartinis*

May 12 *Fr. Resila*

May 19 *Fr. Juanito*

May 26 *Fr. DeMartinis*

June 2 *Fr. Resila*

June 9 *Fr. Juanito*

June 16 *Fr. DeMartinis*

June 23 *Fr. Resila*

June 30 *Fr. Juanito*

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