



A Weekly Update from St. Cecilia Church  
*Knowing, Loving & Serving Jesus*  
*In Fox Chase, Rockledge, Burholme and Beyond...*

OUR VISION FOR ST. CECILIA: ***Transforming lives through faith filled relationships.***

OUR PARISH'S MISSION: ***Proclaim the Good News, embolden all believers, and inspire a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ so our parish will love and serve others generously.***

A.



C.



As part of the Next Generation Parish process, we are updating our Parish Logo and "branding colors". In the past St. Cecilia Parish & School used a variety of green and gold/yellow which we will try to standardize. In addition, the school uniform has been blue for many years so we will tie that in as three colors are now very standard for a logo. The image is based on our traditional logo, a depiction of the window above the altar. The designer tied in some imagery of a pipe organ since St. Cecilia is the patroness of music.

WHAT DO YOU THINK? DO YOU HAVE A PREFERENCE? [Let Father Chris know before we make the final decision!](#)

Watch a ***Weekly Update Video*** from Father Chris...

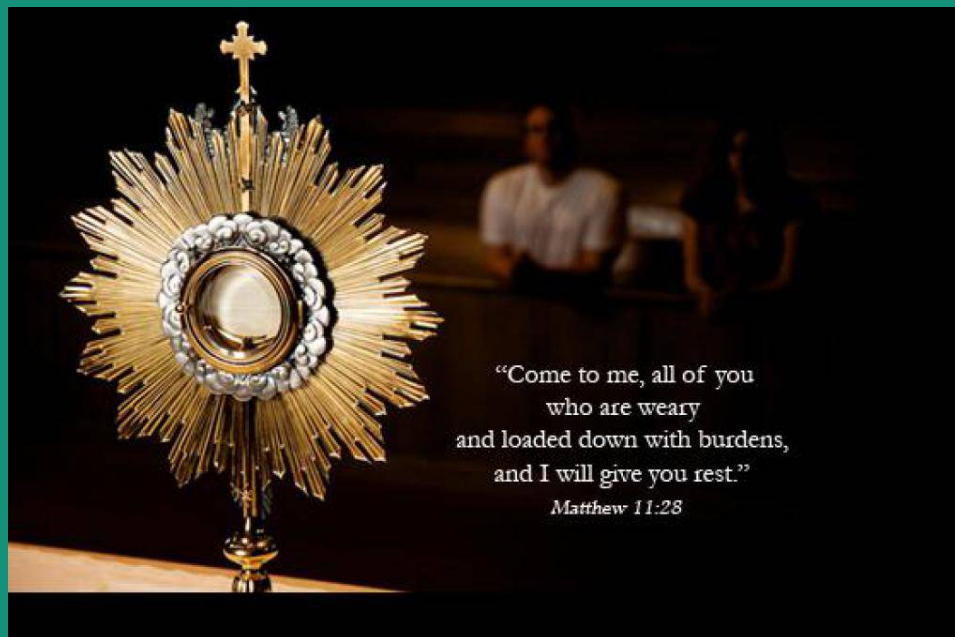


Dear Friends in Christ,

Over the past few weeks I have shared my thoughts on the three aspects of our Parish Mission Statement (that we will *proclaim the Good News, embolden all believers and inspire a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ*). The final part of our Mission Statement addresses why we do these things – *so that our parish will love and serve others generously*.

At times I ask myself: “*What is the place of a parish life Saint Cecilia in 2024?*” As more and more parishes across the country and merged (or closed) it is obvious that the role of a local parish is not what it was for people 40, 60 or 80 years ago. People are not as observant in religious practice. They have opportunities for social engagement and education in places other than the parish. So why are we still here on Rhawn Street?

I believe it is so that we – every one of us – can love and serve other generously. It sounds radical (maybe even crazy), but in a world that is more and more selfish, self-centered, lonely, isolated and feeling forgotten it is being loved and served that will most likely awaken them to the everlasting love of God. Our neighborhoods need St. Cecilia because they need to be loved and served. In order for St. Cecilia to do this – each one of us need to do it. Are you with me?



**Have you joined us for Adoration on Mondays?  
Jesus wants time with you.  
Join us from Noon to 7pm.  
Come for 10, 20 or 30 minutes. Maybe even an hour!  
Look at Him. Let Him look at you!**



**One of the most  
cowardly things  
ordinary people  
do is to **shut their  
eyes to facts.****

*-- C.S Lewis*



from St. Cecilia Church. They are open from 10am to 1pm on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays and need a few more volunteers to serve women with children. Most of the women Birthright serves have already made the choice for life, but they don't have the resources to give their babies the best start in life. Birthright connects them to various resources that are available. Our volunteers answer the phone, make up Welcome Baby Gifts, and meet with the moms to direct them to the best resources for their needs, and help anyone who is considering abortion. Training is provided. No experience needed. If you are interested in learning more about our services or talking about volunteering, please call Joann at 215-760-9775 or call Sr. Joanne at 215-728-0385 and leave a message.

5K RUN  
&  
1 MILE  
WALK

SCS  
LEGACY  
RUN

FREE  
KIDS 50  
YARD  
DASH

Saturday, April 20, 2024 at 8:00am



ST. CECILIA SCHOOL  
FOX CHASE, PA  
1 mi / 5k  
5K LEGACY  
RUN/WALK  
2024

The SCS Legacy Run and events will provide scholarship opportunities to students at Saint Cecilia School who have a parent who is an alum of either Saint Cecilia School or Saint William's School.

SCAN HERE TO REGISTER →





**COFFEE TALK!** Are you grieving the loss of a loved one? Many people find it helpful to talk through grief with others who have also experienced a loss. Please join us for a monthly COFFEE TALK at St. Cecilia. The next gathering is **Saturday, January 27th from 9am to 10:30am** - RESCHEDULED DUE TO SNOW - in the Cecilian Room (Building C, across from the Rectory). All are welcome. For more information, call Paula at 215-317-9802.



Give the gift of life at St. Cecilia Church on Monday, February 19th from 1:30pm to 6:30pm in the Auditorium. The need to always great and St. Cecilia Donors are vital to the effort. Please call 1-800-RED-CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or [USE THIS LINK](#) to schedule your appointment. **WE HAVE 18 PEOPLE REGISTERED - WE HOPE TO REACH 55!**

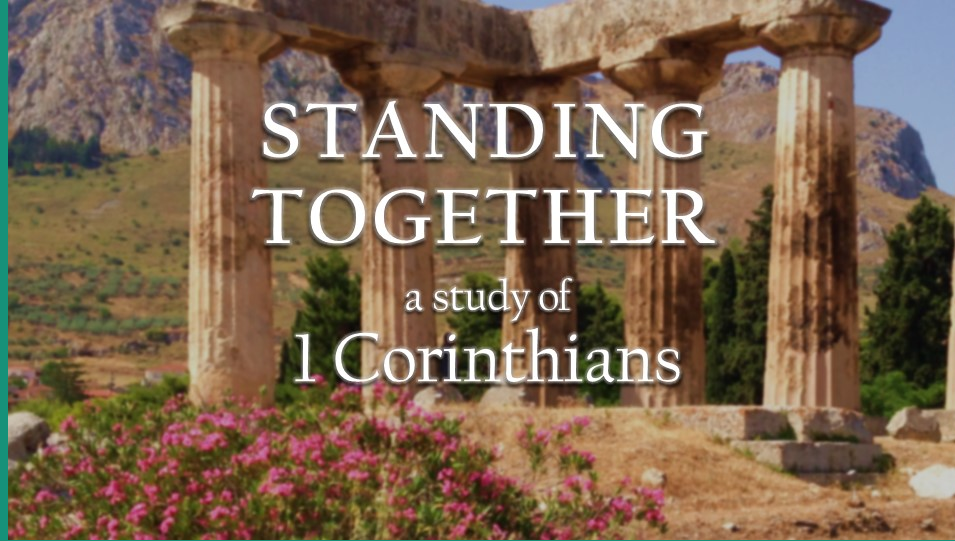


**WE HAD TO RE-SCHEDULE BECAUSE OF LAST WEEK'S SNOW. THE EVENT IS SATURDAY, JAN. 27TH. TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE**

Proceeds will benefit a St. Cecilia School Scholarship Fund

[Click here for additional info and to purchase tickets.](#)

Questions? Email [St. Cecilia Parish Event Planners](#)

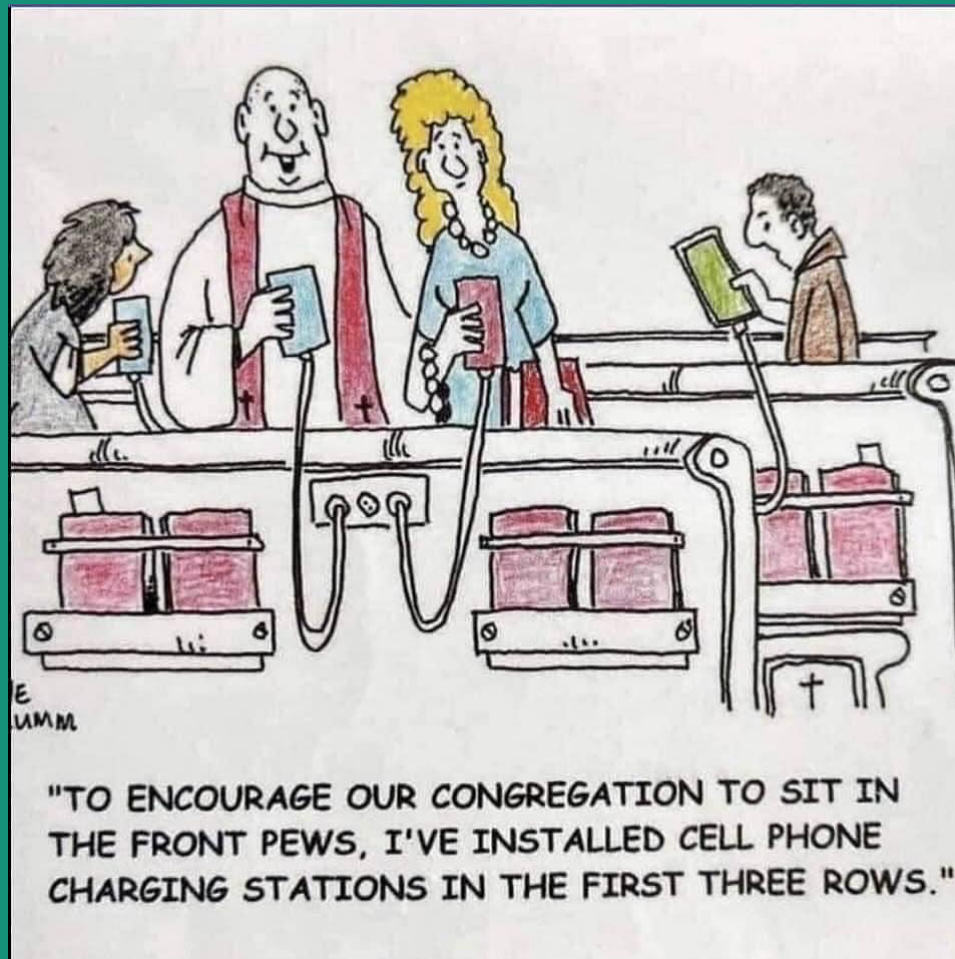


Join Father Chris and Saint Cecilia Church on Wednesday Evenings 7pm to 8:30pm in our School Auditorium. We will gather on February 21, March 6, March 13, March 20 and March 27 to study this amazing letter from Saint Paul. No experience needed. All are welcome. Bring a friend. Young disciples over 13 are welcome to join the Bible Study as well (with their parent). FREE child care will be available. [SIGN UP HERE](#) or call the Parish Office.



- **Pope Francis' Intention for JANUARY:** we pray that the Holy Spirit help us recognize the gift of diverse charisms within the parish community and richness of different traditions that make us a truly Catholic (universal) Church!
- **A Parent's Prayer for their Child for January:** I pray thta my children will always have godly friends and role models. May they choose friends wisely and grcefully.
- Pray for the soul of **Anthony Hasara** who will be buried at St. Cecilia on Friday, Jan 26th at 10;:30 and for the comfort of all who loved him
- Pray for the soul of **Timothy Healey** whose funeral will be at St. Cecilia on Monday, Jn. 29th at 10:30. May his family be comforted.
- Pray for the soul of **Thomas Montvydas** (whose son and daughter worship at St. Cecilia) whose funeral will be at St. Martha on Friday, Jan. 26th at 10am and the comfort of his family.
- Pray for those who are suffering with with the flu, COVID and chronic illness
- Pray for peace in Ukraine, Russia, Israel, Gaza, Yemen, Nigeria and the streets of Philadelphia

- Pray for all the sick at Pennypack Nursing Home, Jeanes & Fox Chase Hospitals

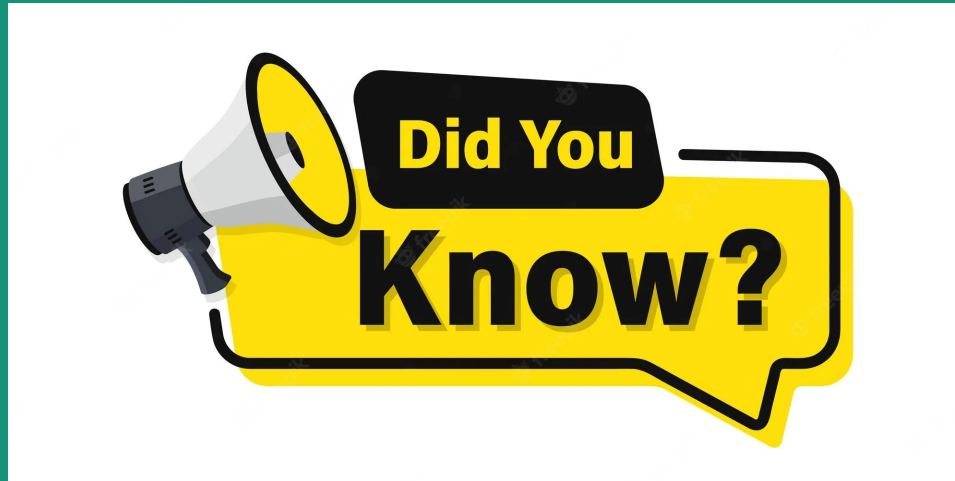


# PA EITC

## PENNSYLVANIA EDUCATIONAL IMPROVEMENT TAX CREDIT PROGRAM

**HELPING SAINT CECILIA SCHOOL** As you can imagine, the cost of a Catholic Education continues to increase. St. Cecilia School wants to continue to make this education affordable for families as we believe it is good for the child, our Church and society! Here are a few ways you can assist us in assisting families: **RAISE RIGHT SCRIP PROGRAM** allows us to purchase "gift cards" and a percentage of each card can go towards a child's tuition – if interested, [contact Eleanor in the Parish Office](#). **SPONSOR A CHILD PROGRAM** allows you to pay a portion of a child's tuition for the school year; you can donate \$5,000 for a full scholarship, \$2,500 for a half

scholarship or \$1,250 for a partial scholarship – for more information contact [Sue in the Parish Office](#). **TAX CREDIT SCHOLARSHIPS** allow you to re-direct your Pennsylvania Tax Dollars to a child's tuition if you pay the State more than \$1,000 in taxes (check your statements as you get them in January, you likely have that tax liability but it is withdrawn from your paycheck) – *please help us in this way as it will make a HUGE impact in the life of our families* – [for more information contact Father Chris](#).



- **Feast of St. Blaise** We celebrate his Feast on Saturday. We will offer the traditional “Blessing of Throats” at the 8am Mass on Saturday and after all weekend Masses February 3rd & 4th. *Through the intercession of Saint Blaise, Bishop & Martyr, may you be healed of all diseases of the throat and every other illness!*
- **FREE SUPPORT GROUPS** Aldersgte, a non-profit family resource center, is offering two wonderful opportunities (AT NO COST) to the community, AN EIGHT WEEK GROUP FOR FAMILIES WITH A LOVED ONE WITH MENTAL ILLNESS OF ADDICTION starts Jan. 25th (meets Thursdays at 7pm) and A SIX WEEK GROUP TO HELP TEENS LEARN HOW TO MANAGE THEIR EMOTIONS starts Jan. 31st (meets Wednesdays from 6pm to 7pm). Both groups meet at their office in Willow Grove (above Weinrick's Bakery, one block from the Mall). Please call 215-657-4545. *You can atten one week or every week. Take advantage of this wonderful resource today*
- **Lumen Christi Award at Ukranian Center** The Sisters of St. Basil will receive an award in recognition of their valor in assisting those impacted by the war in Ukraine. The event is on Thursday, February 22nd at 5:30pm. Tickets are \$95 (proceeds benefit the ministries of the Sisters here and in Ukraine). Call 215-379-3998, Ext 17 or email [development@stbasils.com](mailto:development@stbasils.com)
- Fr. Chris and Fr. Phong are available for [CONFESSION](#) on Monday (6pm to 7pm); Wednesday (7am to 8am) and Saturday (4pm to 4:50pm). Please make use of this wonderful Sacrament in order to grow as a Disciple of Jesus Christ.
- Heading to the movies? Check out the new film on [Saint Mother Cabrini](#)
- Did you read last Sunday's [Church Bulletin](#)? Be sure to take a minute to keep up on the great things happening at St. Cecilia
- Thursday we celebrated the Conversion of Saint Paul - [learn some stuff about that amazing event!](#)
- **Mass Intentions at the 5pm Mass:** *Since we have added the 5pm Mass, we will accept Mass Intentions for that Mass as well. Please*

see Sue in the Parish Office is you would like to have a Sunday 5pm Mass offered for a loved one.

- We will have a **Donut Social on Sunday, February 11th after the 9:30am Mass** (yes, we are changing things up a bit in the new year) in the Auditorium. This will give our Church Family a chance to meet one another and build relationships. Please join us and get to know your parish family better.
- **Safe Environment Training** St. Cecilia will offer the Protecting God's Children course on Tuesday, March 5th from 6pm to 9pm and Wednesday, March 6th from 9am to Noon on our campus. This course is part of the requirements in order to volunteer at St. Cecilia Church and School when coming in contact with minors. To reserve your spot at training please email Kristen at [safe@stceciliafc.com](mailto:safe@stceciliafc.com); you may also contact Sue in the Parish Office.



**JOIN US!** On Saturday, February 10th we will have our first Marriage Enrichment Night at St. Cecilia. We will gather in the Auditorium after the 5pm Mass for wine, cheese and an enriching conversation as couples (you will ONLY be sharing with your spouse; do not worry - it will not get too mushy). There is no cost for the night and it includes FREE CHILDCARE! Want something better? The Marriage Enrichment Program will run 6pm to 7:30pm but you can leave your kids for childcare until 10pm as you enjoy a date night (or stay at St. Cecilia and play games with other couples)! To save your spot - please email [marriage@stceciliafc.com](mailto:marriage@stceciliafc.com)

**03.04 2023**



# MANUP PHILLY

**PHILADELPHIA'S ANNUAL CATHOLIC MEN'S CONFERENCE**

**Man Up Philly 2023** invites the men of the **Archdiocese of Philadelphia** to the **15<sup>th</sup> Annual Men's Spirituality Conference** to be held on Saturday, March 4<sup>th</sup> at **Cardinal O'Hara's St. John Vianney Hall Theater**.

We encourage all men – fathers, sons, brothers, friends – to join us *On the Road to Emmaus*, for an inspiring day of faith and fellowship.

Come back to the Lord. Join your brothers in Christ!



**Cardinal Dolan**



**Deacon Mahoney**



**Jim Wahlberg**



**Mark Forrest**



**Archbishop Perez**

**SATURDAY, MARCH 4, 2023**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO REGISTER**

**VISIT MANUPPHILLY.COM**



**MAN UP PHILLY** Philadelphia's Catholic Men's Conference will take place on Saturday, March 2nd at Cardinal O'Hara. Men of all ages (and your teenage sons) are welcome and encouraged to join more than 1,000 other men for this day of encouragement, fellowship and spiritual growth. Speakers include former Phillie Hall of Fame Mike Schmidt! Tickets are \$65 for the day (scholarships available; contact Father Chris). **If you plan to attend, please register on your own at [www.manupphilly.com](http://www.manupphilly.com) - then, please email Mark at [notmoving@gmail.com](mailto:notmoving@gmail.com) so that we can coordinate (and possibly plan carpooling) for the St. Cecilia group of men!**

The Arm of  
**ST. JUDE THE APOSTLE**  
is visiting the United States and is coming to  
THE STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA

Known as the *Apostle of the Impossible*,  
Saint Jude is revered for his unwavering  
dedication and steadfast faith. Millions  
have experienced his intercession in times  
of adversity and need.



**DATE:** Friday, February 2, 2024

**LOCATION:** St. Jude Church and Shrine

**ADDRESS:** 321 West Butler Ave - Chalfont, Pennsylvania 18914 (215) 822-0179

**VENERATION OF THE RELIC BEGINS:** 1:00 PM

**SPECIAL MASS IN HONOR OF SAINT JUDE:** 7:00 PM

**VENERATION ENDS:** 10:00 PM



THE APOSTLE OF THE  
**IMPOSSIBLE**  
TOUR OF THE RELICS OF  
ST. JUDE THE APOSTLE

*Treasures*  
OF THE CHURCH

Visit [stjudechalfont.org/st-jude-relic](http://stjudechalfont.org/st-jude-relic) for details

## When Valentine's Day falls on Ash Wednesday



**HELP US MAKE THE ASH!** Please return last year's Blessed Palm to the Church over the next few weekends so that we can burn it to make the ash we will use this year. Thank you for placing it in the basket in front of Saint Cecilia's statue.

**ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICES:**

- Masses at 6:30am, 8:30am and 7:00pm
- Prayer Services with Ashes at 10am (with School), Noon, 5pm

The Office for Persons with Disabilities and the Office for the New Evangelization present



*Supporting* **THOSE WITH MENTAL HEALTH STRUGGLES**

A Workshop for Parish Leaders, Family Members and Friends

It is estimated that one in five adults in the U.S. lives with a mental illness. Among children and teens, the numbers are increasing dramatically. This means that every parish and church institution - and many families - have members who struggle in this way, and often in silence. This workshop is designed to give parish leaders, as well as family members and friends, practical tools to help you support those who experience mental health struggles. Workshop topics include:

- What do we mean by mental health struggles?
- How to walk alongside someone in a way that is sustainable and resourceful
- How to create space where people can share their struggles while remaining within the boundaries of our competence (e.g. acting as a friend, not a therapist)
- Question-Persuade-Refer Suicide Prevention Training: how to respond when someone may be thinking about suicide

Saturday, January 27, 2024  
9:15 AM - 2:30 PM  
*Mass available at 8:30 AM  
Snow date: February 3*

St. Cecilia Parish Auditorium  
535 Rhawn Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19111

Presenter:  
Dave Eckert, MDiv, CPRP  
Senior Director of Intersect  
Access Services

Cost:  
\$25 per person  
*Morning coffee and lunch is included.*

**REGISTRATION:**  
[Click here to register](#) or  
visit [archphila.org/support](http://archphila.org/support)

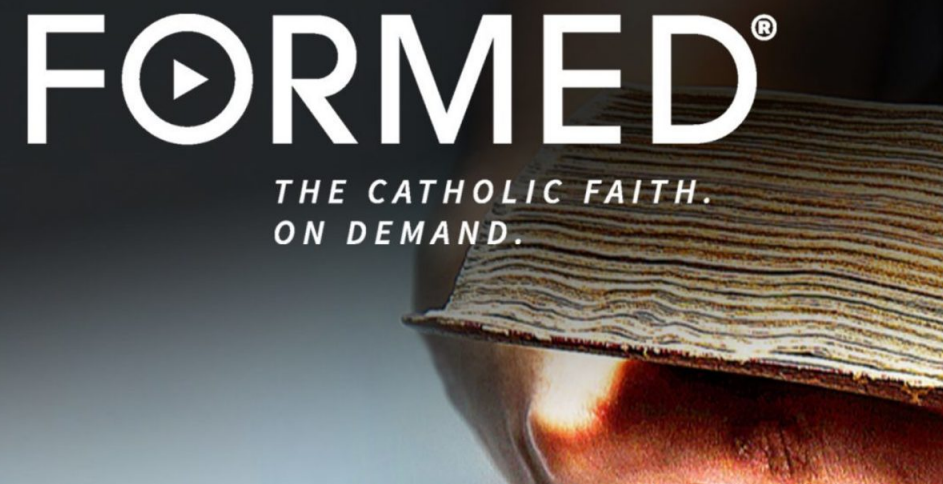


**Questions?**  
Meghan Cokeley, [mcokeley@archphila.org](mailto:mcokeley@archphila.org)  
or Natalie Rivera, [nrivera@archphila.org](mailto:nrivera@archphila.org)

**DUE TO THE PRESENTER BECOMING ILL, THIS WORKSHOP HAS BEEN RE-SCHEDULED FOR SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3RD.**



**Catholic Schools Week 2024** Since 1974, National Catholic Schools Week is the annual celebration of Catholic education in the United States. It is this week (January 28 – February 3). The theme for National Catholic Schools Week 2024 is “***Catholic Schools: United in Faith and Community.***” Schools typically observe the annual celebration week with Masses, open houses (ours is Sunday after the 11am Mass) and other activities for students, families, parishioners and community members. Through these events, schools focus on the value Catholic education provides to young people and its contributions to our church, our communities and our nation. St. Cecilia is blessed with a school that has a proud history and a strong future, nearly 100 years of serving young people and leading them to Jesus Christ. Learn more about our school. Consider donating to our “Sponsor a Student” program to assist with tuition. Consider joining other parishioners in volunteering. Consider telling someone with children in a public school or charter school that St. Cecilia School has a set for their child!



Need a break from Netflix?

Want something that feeds your soul?

Create a FREE account with [FORMED.ORG](http://FORMED.ORG) (another benefit of being a member of Saint Cecilia-Fox Chase).

Start watching movies, documentaries and amazing videos that will teach you our Catholic Faith!

