



## 22nd Sunday of Ordinary Time Sunday, August 30, 2020

### Gospel Reflection

Does God want us to be happy? How could anyone answer “no”? How could anyone suppose God is good or loving if it is not true that he wants us to be happy?

And yet look at Christ’s line in the Gospel reading. Deny yourself, Jesus tells his faithful followers; take up your cross and follow me.

Denying yourself seems the very opposite of going for happiness, and the cross is an instrument of torture. Why would God want these things for his people? Does God want us to be *unhappy*?

A man divorcing his unaccomplished, middle-aged, dowdy wife to marry a much younger, prettier, successful woman explained his decision to his devastated wife this way. “God wants me to be happy,” he told her, “and I can’t be happy with *you*. I *will* be happy with her.”

It seems never to have crossed the mind of this husband that God might have any care for his wife’s happiness. The husband’s full view of the matter could be put this way: “God wants *me* to be happy, but God doesn’t care at all about *you*.”

This little story, common in its selfishness, shows the sickness of the post-fall human condition, so apt to privilege its own power or pleasure over any greater goods. We can’t be happy in this condition when we are glad enough to crush others to get what we want. What is to be done with us? What *will* make us happy? What will save us from the evil that infects us and leaves us so willing to afflict others?

This is where Christ’s line comes in. The route to the happiness God does want for us has to go through the cross of Christ. Christ is The Way for us, and the cross is where we meet him for the road to our true happiness in love and holiness in him.

~ Eleonore Stump

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### Resources

View 9:00 AM Daily Mass: <http://cdn.audiovideoweb.com/lnks/play/8c3fslive2083>

Readings for the Day: <https://bible.usccb.org/>

**Confessions:** Call the Parish Office at 415-664-8481, leave a message, and one of our priests will call you back to arrange a date and time.

**Mass Intentions:** Email Jessica Montgomery at [jessica\\_montgomery@stcecilia.com](mailto:jessica_montgomery@stcecilia.com) or call the Parish Office to schedule a date and time.

**Spiritual Resources:** As a member of the Parish you can avail yourself of [www.formed.com](http://www.formed.com) (parish access code: RZDPQZ). This resource will provide you with access to thousands of movies, programs, and other materials that we believe will be of spiritual comfort and guidance during this time.

**Retreat:** "Living the Ups and Downs of Our Faith with Fr. Ron Rolheiser" on Saturday, September 26, 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM. The cost of the online retreat is \$25. A recording will be available for ticket holders who cannot attend. Register at <https://vallombrosa.org/calendar>. "We live with a deep secret that sometimes we know, and then not!" Faith has this curious quality. Some days we can walk on water and other days we feel like atheists. These talks will explore the deep inner dynamics of faith. What is real faith? What is genuine doubt? What are the dark nights of the soul that can assail us? How do we work at sustaining a genuine faith?

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## Keep St. Cecilia Parish Strong

We want to give a HUGE thank you to those who have continued to support our Sunday Collection! We are dependent upon our parishioners to support our parish financially.

\* Donate online by going to <https://www.stcecilia.com> and clicking on the DONATE button on the right side. You can set up a one-time donation or choose the frequency that works for you. If you need assistance with online giving please call 415-664-8481 or email Jessica Montgomery at [jessica\\_montgomery@stcecilia.com](mailto:jessica_montgomery@stcecilia.com).

\* Mail in your donations to St. Cecilia Parish, 2555 17th Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94116.

Thank you for your generosity.

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### Welcome Back to School Video

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o9QrxNSgTWM&feature=emb\\_logo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o9QrxNSgTWM&feature=emb_logo)

### St. Cecilia School Open Houses 2020-21

As with many things this school year, we will need to reimagine what our Open Houses will look like. We will still find a way to give prospective families an opportunity to experience all that SC has to offer, but at the moment are still planning how best to accomplish that in the current environment. We will share more information about presentations, "tours", and the revamped application process in the near future. Thanks for your understanding.

St. Cecilia School, mindful of its mission to be witness to the love of Christ for all, admits students of any race, color, and national and/or ethnic origin to all rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded to or made available to students at the school. St. Cecilia School does not unlawfully discriminate on the basis of race, color, and national and/or ethnic origin, age, sex, or disability in administration of educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic and other school-administered programs. Likewise, St. Cecilia School does not unlawfully discriminate against any applicant for employment on the basis of sex, age, disability, race, color, and national and/or ethnic origin.

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## Mass Intentions

### Monday, August 31

Brigid Scanlon  
Shyanne Robinson, Living  
Efren Cuejilo

### Tuesday, September 1

Stephen McEntee, Living  
Edgardo Casyuran  
Thanasis Larissopoulos

### Wednesday, September 2

Donald & Reno Tonegato  
Jordan Casayuran, Living  
Sr. Mary Herbert

### Thursday, September 3

Katie O'Brien  
Linda & Lodovico Landi

### Friday, September 4

Yulie Sinh, Living  
Mary Naughton  
Richard Vincent Mercurio

### Saturday, September 5

Teodorico Fabi  
Frank O'Keeffe

### Sunday, September 6

Lapuyade Family  
Bernice Aguas, Living



*"Let no one ever come to you  
without leaving better and happier. Be  
the living expression of God's kindness:  
kindness in your face, kindness in your  
eyes, kindness in your smile."*

*Mother Teresa*