

LEGION OF MARY

Patroness: Mary, Help of Sinners



What It Is: The mission of the Ames Area Catholic Community, Legion of Mary (LoM), is to give glory to God through the devotion of its members, who, taking Mary as their model, strive to imitate her virtues. The LoM undertakes Spiritual works of Mercy, thereby helping people come closer to God through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

What It Does: Active membership includes attending weekly prayer meetings, at which the Rosary and Magnificat are prayed, and carrying out Spiritual Works of Mercy. The pastors of St. Thomas Aquinas and St. Cecilia have assigned two primary areas of ministry, which are the Spiritual Work for LoM, Ames:

1. An ongoing personal invitation to people who may be interested in deepening their relationship with Christ and His Church, especially those who are often missed, such as, international students and residents, and the poor.
2. Visiting and praying with Catholics who are homebound and in area care centers.

Specific works currently undertaken in the Ames area by the LoM include:

1. Visiting and praying with those in care centers, the homebound, and hospitalized.
2. Supplementing prayer needs of those served by other parish ministries.
3. Leading the Rosary on Marian feast days.

Legion of Mary, Ames, is currently meeting Monday evenings from 7-8 pm in the Our Lady of Guadalupe room at St. Thomas Aquinas.

*****Lof M, Ames, has a new opportunity as an "Associate Member"*****

As an Associate Member you will help in the vision and ministry of the Legion of Mary, including weekly visits to one or two individuals who are homebound or in care centers. Weekly meeting attendance is encouraged, but not required.

For more information, about LoM, Ames, contact Michele Johnson, michelejohnson085@gmail.com, or Deacon Charles Bernhard, charlesbernhard@gmail.com 515-509-6867.

Social Justice Newsletter May 2019

A Committee of St. Cecilia's Catholic Church

Foster Parenting

"I was a stranger, and you welcomed me..." Matthew 25:35



At a recent parish meeting **several inquiring families of our St. Cecilia's community** learned about being **Foster Parents in Iowa**. A representative from Four Oaks Foster and Adoptive Services, Bambi Schrader, who is a Foster Parent, was on hand with an extremely helpful presentation.

Some surprising things to know are:

1. All the costs to care for the child are reimbursed.
2. If you aren't ready to be a full fledged Foster Parent, you can be a respite care provider.
3. Sometimes Foster care can open the door for adoption, but does not have to. The ultimate goal, if possible, is reunion with family of origin.
4. The need in Iowa is great for loving stable homes.

Becoming a Foster Parent is an opportunity to make a positive impact for the "least of these", but requires prayer and discernment. The support for becoming one is definitely out there, so fear not!

For more information contact:

Bambi Schrader / Recruitment & Training Coordinator

FO Foster/Adoptive Family Connections Program

YSS / 125 S. 3RD ST. AMES, IOWA 50010

C: 515-291-4071 / W: www.yss.org

Social Justice Contacts

ALTERNATIVE GIFT MARKET -
1-800-842-2243 - SCT Contact:
Cynthia Shriver 292-6584

AMOS - SCT Contact:
Kathy Wipf 232-6232

APPALACHIA/OVERFLOW -
202 So. Duff, Ames - SCT Contact:
Lynn Franco 232-0898

BIRTHRIGHT OF AMES -
108 Hayward Ave., Suite 202, Ames -
515-292-8414 - SCT Contact:
Kriss Holmes 515-292-8414

CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS OF THE
AMERICAS - SCT Contact:
Rose Tondra 232-4598

CLIMATE ACTION TEAM -
SCT Contact: John Wilson 232-1087

DAYS FOR GIRLS - SCT Contact:
Mary Ross 232-5080

EMERGENCY RESIDENCE
PROJECT - SCT Contact:
Julie Haas 232-7138

FOOD AT FIRST - 611 Clark Ave.,
Ames - 515-344-4357 - SCT Contact:
Julie Haas 232-7138

GOOD NEIGHBOR EMERGENCY
ASSISTANCE, INC. - 613 Clark Ave.,
Ames - 515-296-1449 - SCT Contact:
Charlie Weber 460-3335

HOME FOR AWHILE - SCT
Contact: Mary Ross 232-5080

OPERATION RICE BOWL - SCT
Contact: Cynthia Shriver 292-6584

PRISON MINISTRY - SCT Contact:
Barb Moore (515) 337-1551

SAINT CECILIA SOCIAL JUSTICE
COMMITTEE - Contact:
Doreen Berg 956-3414

SANCTITY OF HUMAN LIFE -
SCT Contact:
Garland Dahlke 460-0403

The Social Justice Committee meets
on the third Monday of each month at
7:00 p.m. in the St. Louis Room.
Everyone is welcome to attend.



UNITED WAY OF STORY

COUNTY (UWSC) has taken an active role in providing food and academic enrichment opportunities for children during the summer. Together with other community partners UWSC through the Story County Reads education initiative helps fund and implement summer programs in Ames, Ballard, Collins-Maxwell and Nevada.

Research shows that students who are not engaged in either academics or enrichment activities lose ground with their education over the summer months.

Summer is also a time when some families have a harder time making their budgets work because their food costs increase dramatically when children are not in school to participate in food programs. Food insecurity during the summer months negatively impacts these families the most as children who are normally receiving meals at school during the day do not have that option. Healthy food options may be limited as well because the food that is available for quick and easy preparation may not be the healthiest choice.

VOLUNTEERS are needed to help with these summer programs. If you are interested in helping children read or help with lunches, please visit **The Volunteer Center of Story County** for information <https://www.vcstory.org> or call (515) 268-5323.

SHOP Plus 1

During the Summer months, as mentioned in the article above, families in Ames and Story County are in real need of food since children are not in school and do not always have the food they receive through lunch programs, etc.



When you shop for groceries and household items, please consider picking up an item to donate to the monthly St. Cecilia MICA collection.

Food items needed at the MICA Food Pantry are :

soups, packaged main meals, rice, canned meat, canned vegetables, canned fruit, peanut butter, pasta, cereal, baby food

Non food items needed are:

laundry detergent, dish soap, disposable diapers, baby wipes, toilet paper, shampoo, paper towels and tissues

Thank you for SHOPPING Plus 1!