

# Saint Cecilia Catholic Community

December 5, 2004

Second Sunday of Advent



**W**e are called one by one and as a community to become part of the living presence of Jesus Christ. We are united with the Father and strengthened and enlivened by the Holy Spirit. We are committed daily to love and serve others as Jesus did.

“Building for our Future”

## PARISH STAFF

### Pastor

Father Terry Rassmussen, OFM Conv.  
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### Deacons

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## Mass Schedule

Weekend: Saturday 5:00 PM  
Sunday 8:00, 9:30 & 11:15 AM

Weekday: Tuesday thru Friday, 7:00 AM

Holyday: Consult the bulletin

## Sacramental Life

### Reconciliation

Saturday 4:00-4:30 PM  
Anytime by appointment.

### Marriage

Contact the Parish Office at least six months prior to wedding date.

### Baptism

To participate in the Baptismal Program please call the Parish Office. Instruction for parents is required.

### Sick Calls

Call the Parish Office to make arrangements to receive the sacraments.

**Stewardship:** We must be good stewards of God's gifts to us, receiving them gratefully and cultivating them with care lest we be the ones about whom John the Baptist speaks today: "Every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire."

## Religious Education

for the whole parish family

### Religious Education Classes

Pre-School & Kindergarten meet during 9:30AM Mass the 1st & 3rd Sundays of the month.

December dates: 5, 19

#### Grades 1-6

**Monday, 6:10-7:30PM**

December dates: 6, 13

**Wednesday, 4-5:20PM**

December dates: 8, 15

#### Grades 7 & 8

**Wednesday, 7-8:20PM**

December dates: 8, 15

### Youth Ministry

#### Grades 9-12

**Sunday, 7-8:30PM**

December dates: 5, 12, 19

#### R.U.S.S.H.

**Dec. 8:** Scavenger Hunt.

**Dec. 15:** To be decided.

**Dec. 18:** Special Saturday activity—Christmas Caroling at Green Hills. Meet at Saint Cecilia, 9:00AM.

**Dec. 22:** Christmas Caroling. Meet at Saint Cecilia, 6:00PM.

### Adult Education

**Scripture Study:** Meets Mondays, 7:30-9:00PM in the Adult/Youth room. Next Session: December 6.

**Tuesday Morning Bible Study:** Meets 10:15-11:15AM, St. Francis Library. Next Session : December 7.

### RCIA

The Rite of Christian Initiation is the process through which people learn about the Catholic faith and are welcomed into the Church. Inquirers are welcome to join the process at any time. For information call John at 232-3514.

## Immaculate Conception

(Holy day of Obligation)

**DECEMBER 7: 5:30PM**

Teams of Our Lady will celebrate a Living Rosary after this Mass. All are welcome to participate.

**DECEMBER 8: 7:00AM, 9:00AM, 7:30PM**



THE MONTHLY PARISH POTLUCK WILL NOT BE HELD DECEMBER 7. NEXT POTLUCK WILL BE JANUARY 4.

### MEETINGS/EVENTS

**Breakfast served after the 8:00 and 9:30AM Masses this weekend by those in the RCIA program.**

#### Calming the Spirit

Do yourself a favor and come to a relaxing and prayerful half hour of quieting your soul. Invite a friend and come to the Social Hall at 9:00PM Wednesday, December 15 and 22. No session on December 8.

#### The Giving Tree

Please remember to leave your wrapped gift with contents marked at the foot of the tree in the entry **by noon, Sunday, December 12.**

On Sunday afternoon the Social Concerns committee will package the gifts for distribution to the following: Bethany Manor, the Richmond Center, The Abington on Grand, Mary Greeley Adolescent Psych Ward, Riverside Manor, Saint Cecilia Home Ministry, Youth and Shelter Services, and Lutheran Social Services of Iowa.



**Wednesday Morning Playgroup** meets from 10:00-11:30AM in the A/Y room. All are welcome. Contact Dawn at 233-6157 or [tdwied@worldnet.att.net](mailto:tdwied@worldnet.att.net) for information.

### Christmas Schedule

#### December 24: Christmas Eve

4:00PM Family Liturgy Mass

6:30PM Christmas Eve Mass

11:00PM (Caroling begins at 10:30)

#### December 25: Christmas Day

10:00AM

There will be no 5:00PM Mass or confessions.

#### December 26: Feast of the Holy Family

8:00AM, 9:30AM, 11:15AM

#### January 1: Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

9:00AM

(Not a Holy Day of Obligation this year)

There will be no 5:00PM Mass or confessions.

### OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE CELEBRATION

**Saturday, December 11, 5:00PM**

The Bi-Lingual Mass will be followed by a procession and a potluck dinner in the Social Hall. Please bring your own beverage, a main dish and a salad or dessert to share.

(Vengan celebremos la fiesta de Nuestra Senora de Guadalupe con una Misa el Sabado, 11, de Diciembre, a las 5:00PM. Al terminar la Misa se realizara una procesion. Inmediatamente despues tendremos una convivencia, para ello pedimos que traigan un plato principal y ensalada o postre y una bebida para compartir. ! Vengan celebremos!)



## Religious Goods and Book Sale December 4 & 5

The Family Life Committee will sponsor its 18th Annual Advent Gift and Book Sale this weekend, December 4-5. The sale will be held in the parish Parlors after all liturgies. A large selection will be available including books for both children and adults, Advent and Christmas related materials, and gift items. The merchandise will be provided by Lemstone and a portion of all sales will go to the Parish Family Life committee for its ministry to families.

## Give a Gift of Life

St. Cecilia's Alternative Gift Market will be held after all Masses December 4 & 5 in the Social Hall. Instead of the usual commercial gifts, you can give, in honor of your friends and relatives, life giving gifts such as livestock, medicine, trees, food and shelter that will be sent to people in crisis overseas and in the U.S. by ecumenical non-profit organizations. Several local organizations, including Good Neighbor and the Emergency Residence Project are also represented. You'll receive holiday cards with gift inserts to send to those on your gift list. Examples of gifts include \$4 for school supplies for a child in Iraq and \$15 for one week of groceries for a Good Neighbor client.

## Olive Wood Sale December 4/5, Social Hall

Your purchase of Olive Wood items for yourself or as a Christmas gift for family and friends helps to financially support the remaining 1% of the Christian population living in the Holy Land and support the craft of olive wood sculpture that began 1000 years ago. **Cash donations accepted. Make checks out to the Jerusalem Fund.**

## YEAR OF THE EUCHARIST

Biblical reasons for wanting to spend one hour each week with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament.

When you look upon the Sacred Host, YOU LOOK UPON JESUS, the Son of God. *"Indeed this is the will of my Father; that everyone who looks upon the Son and believes in Him shall have eternal life. Him I will raise up on the last day."* (Jn6:40)

## OPPORTUNITIES TO GET INVOLVED

**A Handbell Choir** is forming for the Christmas season. Call Bob at 233-3092 if you are interested in joining.

**The Spiritual Growth and Liturgy Committee** needs volunteers to help coordinate certain jobs during the Hanging of the Greens, Sunday, December 19. The jobs include tree prep, tree lighting/decoration, poinsettia/altar decoration, wreath, Chapel and most important –clean-up. Please contact Bob at 233-3092. Outdoor decoration preparation will take place on Saturday, December 11 and /or 18. Contact Bill Haas at 232-7138 to help with these projects.

**A New Daytime Bible Study Group** begins Tuesday, January 4, 9:30-11:00AM in the A/Y room. Child care will be provided. All are welcome. Please call Lorna Sellberg (382-6558) or Nannet Horton (292-5486) if you have questions.

**Babysitter Desperately Needed** for Tuesday mornings, 9:15-11:15AM while parents attend Bible Study. Some compensation provided. Must be at least 18 and have attended VIRTUS training or be willing to attend a class in January 2005. Please contact Lorna Sellberg (382-6558).

**Ushers Needed** for the following Mass times: 5:00PM, Saturday, 11:15AM Sunday. Please call Bernie Beaudry (232-0982) or the Parish Office (233-3092) if you can help.

## RETRouvaille

Does your marriage cause you stress? Do you want a chance to eliminate the pain: If both of you want a meaningful relationship, please consider participating in a Retrouvaille (Rediscovery) weekend. The next session will start on Friday evening, January 14 in Waverly and end on Sunday afternoon, January 16. A Retrouvaille weekend will also be held in Dubuque, April 15-17. Please call Dick & Joyce Smith at 800-470-2230 or 563-875-8791 for confidential information. View [www.helpourmarriage.com](http://www.helpourmarriage.com) for additional information.



## SAINT CECILIA PARISH COOKBOOK

**Wanted: Your favorite recipes for a parish wide cookbook.** The more recipes the better! Please type recipes or print clearly, giving clear, concise instructions. Recipes may be placed in drop boxes by the school or parish offices. Proceeds will go toward the Building Fund.

## COMMUNITY

### "Carols & Lullabies, Christmas in the Southwest"

A concert by Good company: A Women's Choral Ensemble will take place Sunday, December 5, 7:00PM, St. Andrew's Lutheran Church. The concert features a collection of Spanish Christmas carols which will be accompanied by harp, classical guitar, and marimba, as well as other unique and beautiful selections. Please join us for an evening of beautiful music of the season! A reception will follow the concert. Tickets are \$7 and available at the door; children under 7 are free.

## 2nd Sunday of Advent

Waiting for a call from a prospective employer or for a loan approval can seem like an eternity. We wait and hope, just praying that we'll get the job or loan that we need. It feels personal, as though a job or loan will make or break us as people. Even if the call is not what we hoped, there is great relief when we finally know for sure what the answer is.



Isaiah already knows what God has in mind. With the rest of God's people, he looks forward to the day when all shall come to pass. On that day, creation will be in order, peace and justice will triumph and the spirit of the Lord will bestow His gifts on One who is to rule. St. Paul echoes this image when he writes to the Romans, describing the life of one who lives in the spirit of Jesus.

Our Advent preparation not only focuses on the coming of Christmas, but also on becoming the people who welcome the Christ Child. In the spirit of Jesus, we need to be at peace, reconciling ourselves with God and with one another. Make amends, strive to spread the mercy and forgiveness God shows you. Make "on that day" today.

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## CHRISTMAS CARDS AVAILABLE

The Knights of Columbus will sell *Keep Christ in Christmas* Cards after all masses. The cards, priced \$6.50-\$10 per box are located on a display table in the vestibule.



## MASS OF HOPE AND HEALING

The annual Mass of Hope and Healing with Archbishop Jerome Hanus, will be December 28, 6:00PM at St. Ludmila Church in Cedar Rapids. Parents, families, and friends are welcome to pray and remember the loss of a child of any age. On December 28, the Feast of the Holy Innocents, parents will be invited to write the name of their child(ren) who have died in the Book of Remembrance. Since this is the Year of the Eucharist, the homily will integrate the sacrament of the Eucharist in bringing hope and healing to families. A reception will follow the Mass. All are warmly invited.

### Holiday Bulletin Deadline:

One bulletin will be printed for the Sundays of December 26/January 2. **Deadline for inclusion in this bulletin is Thursday, December 16.** Plan ahead for announcements for the first week in January.



Those in our parish and the community who are ill.

Please remember in your prayers:  
**JULIA CHRISTY**, mother of Al Christy, who recently passed away. May the Lord grant peace and consolation to her family in their time of need. May she, and all who sleep in Christ, find in God's presence, light, happiness and peace.



### Readings for the Week of December 5, 2004

**Sunday:** Is 11:1-10/ Rom 15:4-9/ Mt 3:1-12  
**Monday:** Is 35:1-10/ Lk 5:17-26  
**Tuesday:** Is 40:1-11/ Mt 18:12-14  
**Wednesday:** Gn 3:9-15, 20/ Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/ Lk 1:26-38  
**Thursday:** Is 41:13-20/ Mt 11:11-15  
**Friday:** Is 48:17-19/ Mt 11:16-19  
**Saturday:** Sir 48:1-4, 9-11/ Mt 17:9a, 10-13  
**Next Sunday:** Is 35:1-6a, 10/ Jas 5:7-10/ Mt 11:2-11

## Mass Intentions for the Week

### Saturday, December 4

5:00PM: Anton Uthe

### Sunday, December 5

8:00AM: Fred & Amelia Habing

9:30AM: Saint Cecilia Parishioners

11:15AM: Youth of the Area

### Tuesday, December 7

7:00AM: Rose Banford

5:30PM: Doug Conley

### Wednesday, December 8

7:00AM: Kay Raemaeker

9:00AM: Keith Roberts

7:30PM: Julie Gilarski

### Thursday, December 9

7:00AM: Eleanor Anderson

### Friday, December 10

7:00AM: Jack Gehm

### Saturday, December 11

5:00PM: Konrady/Daniels deceased

### Sunday, December 12

8:00AM: Ralph Besch

9:30AM: Wayne & Rosemary Roepke

11:15AM: Saint Cecilia Parishioners

## Communal Reconciliation

Thursday, December 16, 7:30PM

## Prayer Opportunities

### Calming the Spirit

December 15, 22, 9:00PM, Social Hall

**Evening Prayer:** Monday through Friday,

5:00PM in the Chapel

**Eucharistic Adoration:** The Chapel is always open for prayer. Call 233-3092 if you wish to sign up for a scheduled adoration hour.

**Intercessory Prayer Group:** Sunday, 9-10:00PM in the Chapel

**Rosary:** Monday, 7:00AM & 7:30PM, Chapel

**Christians in the Spirit:** Tuesday, 7-9:00PM, Chapel

**Saturday Morning Prayer:** 7:00AM, Chapel