

Saint Cecilia Catholic Community

March 6, 2005

Fourth Sunday of Lent



We 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 Rasmussen, OFM Conv.
TRasmussen@aol.com

Deacons

Gary Aitchison, John McCully, Richard Tondra

Office..... 233-3092

Arlene Stacy, FCBA, Business Manager
astacy@stceciliaparish.org

Robert Hauser, Music & Liturgy Director
bhauser@stceciliaparish.org

Joan Jones, Secretary
jjones@stceciliaparish.org

Dawn Aitchison, Family Life Coordinator
daitchis@stceciliaparish.org

Religious Education.....232-3514

John Hayes, Director
jhayes@stceciliaparish.org

Joe Lawlor, Coordinator of Youth Ministry
jlawlor@stceciliaparish.org

Annette Ahmann, Secretary
aahmann@stceciliaparish.org

School.....232-5290

Duane Siepker, Principal
dsiepker@stceciliaparish.org

Lois Vidimos, Secretary
lvidimos@stceciliaparish.org

2900 Hoover Avenue, Ames, IA 50010

Fax: 515-233-6423

www.stceciliaparish.org

Mass Schedule

Weekend: Saturday 5:00 PM

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

First and Third Sunday: 5:00PM (Primer y Tercer Domingo)

Misa en Español (Mass in Spanish)

Weekday: Tuesday thru Friday, 7:00 AM

Holyday: Consult the bulletin

Sacramental Life

Reconciliation in English and Español

Saturday 4:00-4:30 PM

Anytime by appointment. (Cualquier horario para una cita)

Marriage (Matrimonio)

Contact the Parish Office at least six months prior to wedding date. (Contacta la oficina de la parroquia al menos seis meses antes de la fecha del matrimonio).

Baptism (Bautismo)

To participate in the Baptismal Program please call the Parish Office. Instruction for parents is required. (Para participar en el programa bautismal, por favor llama a la oficina de la parroquia. Instruccion para los padres es requerida.)

Sick Calls (Llamados para enfermos)

Call the Parish Office to make arrangements to receive the sacraments. (Llama a la oficina de la parroquia para hacer arreglo y para recibir los sacramentos)

Catholic Charities : Located at St. Thomas Aquinas — 292-2759

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.
March dates: 6, 20

Grades 1-6

Monday, 6:10-7:30PM
March dates: 7, 14

Wednesday, 4-5:20PM
March dates: 9, 30

Grades 7 & 8

Wednesday, 7-8:20PM
March dates: 9, 30

Youth Ministry

Grades 9-12

Sunday, 7-8:30PM
March dates: 6*, 20

TEEN MASS, SUNDAY, MARCH 6, 11:15AM

*Meet in the Social Hall after Mass for Pizza with Sr. Therese Even SSND. Remember, **this takes the place of Sunday evening class.**



Adult Education

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

Tuesday Morning Bible Study: Meets 9:30-11:00AM in the Adult/Youth room. **Beginners welcome.** Baby sitting provided. Deacon John McCully, facilitator. Next session: March 8.

Sunday Scripture Study Group: Meets Tuesday, 10:15-11:15AM, St. Francis Library. This group discusses the historical and social context of the readings for the following Sunday and shares personal implications of the readings for those present. Next Session: March 8.

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.

BAPTISM

Our next preparation session is scheduled for **Thursday, April 7, 6:30- 9:00PM in the Adult/Youth Room.** All parents seeking baptism for their child are expected to attend a preparation session. To Register, call the Parish Office at 233-3092.

Lenten Schedule

Stations of the Cross:

Fridays, 5:00PM en Español, 7:00PM in English
(March 18 will have a special emphasis on children)

Communal Reconciliation: Monday, March 21, 7:30PM

Last Supper Presentation: Wednesday, March 23, 7:00PM

Seder Supper: Thursday, March 24, 5:30PM (reservations needed)

MEETINGS/EVENTS

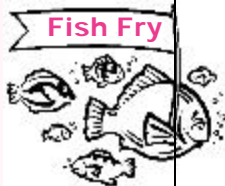
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS FISH FRY

March 11

Serving 5-7:00PM

Adults: \$6; Ages 4-12: \$4; under 4: free

Meal includes deep fried fish (fried in peanut oil), macaroni and cheese, green beans, baked potato, coleslaw, coffee, punch or milk. Desserts available for a free will offering.



Religious Book and Gift Sale sponsored by the Family Life Committee will be held March 11, in the Parlors, during the Fish Fry, and after all masses on March 12/13. This is a great opportunity to purchase books for the Lenten and Easter seasons as well as gifts for Confirmation and First Eucharist. The merchandise is provided by Lemstones.

St. Anne Circle will meet Tuesday, March 8, 9:00AM, in the Parlors. Duane Siepker, school principal, will be the speaker.

St. Gertrude Circle will meet Tuesday, March 8, 1:30PM, Parlor A. Joe Lawlor will present a program on the components of Youth Ministry. Guests are welcome. Call 233-2853 if you need a ride.

Catholic Daughters will meet Thursday, March 10, for dinner, a business meeting and a two part program presented by Fr. Terry and Joe Lawlor, Youth Minister. Please call Char Beaudry at 232-0982 to make dinner reservations.

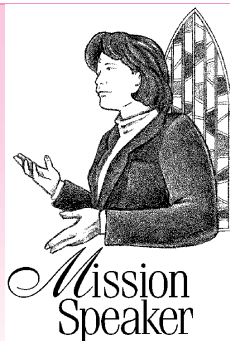
The Bereavement Committee will meet Sunday, March 13, 7:00PM in the St. Francis Room.

Wednesday Morning Playgroup meets from 10:00-11:30AM in the A/Y room. All are welcome. For information, contact Dawn at 233-6157 or e-mail tdwied@worldnet.att.net.

The Parish Seder Supper will be held on Holy Thursday, March 24, 5:30PM, in the Social Hall. All are welcome. There is no charge but contributions are welcome. To make reservations, call Gary or Kay Aitchison at 296-2966.

Parish Lenten Mission
Sister Therese Even SSND
Presents
“Creative Christian
Living”

March 6,7, & 8*
7:00PM, in the Church



STEWARDSHIP: The blind man was willing to let Jesus minister to him and willingly did all Jesus asked of him. The Pharisees were more resistant to His message, spending their time and energy to disprove the miracle. Which am I more like, the man born blind or the Pharisees?

Sister Therese’s sessions deal with the whole person, stressing the need to integrate the spiritual, the emotional, and the psychological aspects of one’s life.

?? Anointing of the sick will take place on March 8.

OPERATION RICE BOWL



This week’s country: Democratic Republic of Congo (Africa)— 55% of the people do not have safe access to drinking water.

Challenge for the Week: Give 25 cents for every glass of water you drink today.

Catholic Social Teaching Principle: Option for the Poor— As a community of faith, we have the obligation to reach out to those most in need. The Gospel specifically calls us to take action on behalf of the most vulnerable members of society.

CHILDREN’S STATIONS OF THE CROSS

On Friday, March 18, 7:00PM, the Stations will have a special emphasis on children. All members of the parish are invited to participate. Parents, this is a meaningful introduction, for your family, to the coming Holy Week.

CELEBRATING THE YEAR OF THE EUCHARIST

Celebrating the Memory of Jesus Christ

The Eucharistic Prayers we use at Mass today are based on some of the oldest prayers of the Church. We have four commonly used *Eucharistic Prayers*, plus three *Eucharistic Prayers for Masses with Children*, two for *Masses for Reconciliation*, and one for *Masses for Special Needs and Occasions* that has four thematic variations. The *Eucharistic Prayers* we use have many common elements which include: **1)** thanking and praising God through Jesus Christ, for all creation; **2)** praying that the Spirit may come and make holy the bread and wine, transforming them into the Body and Blood of Christ; **3)** remembering the death-resurrection-ascension of Jesus Christ; **4)** offering the life-giving bread of the sacrifice of Jesus Christ back to the Father; **5)** praying that the Holy Spirit also make the assembly holy and **6)** remembering the saints and praying for the Pope, bishop, church leaders, and the dead.

While the priest prays the Eucharistic Prayer in the name of the assembly, the congregation adds its acclamation and assent to the prayer. We respond in praise to God with the *Holy, Holy*; we acclaim the mystery of faith ; and we sing “Amen” to the entire prayer at the end.

In what ways does your personal prayer during the week reflect the Eucharistic Prayer? How do you give praise and thanks to God? In what ways do you recall Christ’s death and resurrection? When do you invoke the Holy Spirit?

OPPORTUNITIES TO GET INVOLVED

Join the Parish Family Life Committee

and be part of a small, dynamic group that sponsors activities and events that minister to all ages and stages of families. For more information call Gary & Kay Aitchison at 296-2966.

Support a Mission Trip

The Scallon Family is again planning to travel to Honduras over spring break. Lou will be doing eye surgery at a clinic for indigent people in El Progreso. They will go on a 2-day “brigade” to screen an anticipated 500 people for medical and dental conditions in a poor rural area near La Cieba. They will also do vision screening and fluoride treatments at an elementary school with about 400 people and visit a nursing home that apparently never receives any medical care.

You may support their trip with **prayer, monetary donations** (make checks to Saint Cecilia and specify “Honduras”), and donations of **clothing and shoes for infants and children**. Monetary donations will go to the orphanage and nutrition center they visited last year and to the eye clinic. Clothing items must be new or look like new. Summer clothing only, please, as the temperature is always hot. **Children’s vitamins WITH Iron** are also needed. Any functioning **stethoscopes, blood pressure cuffs** and **otoscopes** can be used in the outlying medical clinics. Please take donations to Saint Cecilia School or the Parish Office by Monday, March 7. Call 292-5144 with questions.

Vacation Bible School (VBS) is just around the corner. This year’s theme is: Serengeti Trek, Where Kids are Wild About God. The dates are June 13-17. Registration will take place in late April/early May.

If you would like to play a leading role in this year’s fun (snack, craft, recreation, preschool leader, etc.) please call or e-mail Brenda Diesslin at 292-0625 or bdiesslin@yahoo.com.

Adoration Hours Available: Wednesday, 2:00AM, 3:00AM (2nd week of the month only); Thursday, 1:00AM (2nd week of the month only) ; Friday, 2:00AM. Call Cyndi at 233-5267 if you can fill any of these times.

4th Sunday of Lent

The Prodigal Son gets caught up in his own selfishness, damaging himself and his family. He feels the effects of his sin and self-consciously returns to his father. He does not expect to be restored to his role as son, but hopes to be accepted as servant. But all his fears are unfounded. The awkwardness of his remorse is bridged by his father's loving forgiveness. His father's warm embrace eases the pain, dispels the fear and restores the son to grace. Love restores what sin destroys.



Forgiveness restores balance to our life and the life of others. It erases the effects of sin and hurt, allowing us to begin again. It lifts the burdens that our selfishness imposes, giving everyone a sense of relief and joy. Most importantly, it allows us to be the faithful people we are called to be. The Father forgives us because He loves us.

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3 IN 1 APPEAL

The Archdiocese is mailing a brochure and offertory envelope for the annual appeal for **Peter's Pence**, **Catholic Relief Services** and **Catholic Communication Campaign/Support of the Witness**. You may use a plain envelope for your contribution if you do not receive the mailing. Please designate how you wish your contribution to be distributed. Please be as generous as possible.

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND IN AMES

Spring is a time for growth. Attend a weekend designed to strengthen the love between you and your spouse as well as your spirituality. Register now for the Marriage Encounter weekend to be held April 15-17 at the Comfort Suites. Contact Eric and Kris at 515-432-6945 or e-mail kris-seeman@hotmail.com.

IN OUR LIBRARY

Mel Gibson's *The Passion of the Christ* is now available in both DVD and VHS in our St. Francis room library. This is a chance for your maturing family to renew your love for Christ and to understand why regular participation at Mass has always characterized His will for His followers from the very beginning of Christianity.



Please join the McCully family for refreshments in the Social Hall on Sunday, March 13, from 9-11:00AM to help celebrate Deacon John's 70th birthday.

SINGLES DANCE

Saturday, March 12, 8PM-Midnight
Fort Dodge Eagles Ballroom
DJ - Dave Haldin
\$10 admission—Lots of mixers



Those in our parish and the community who are ill.

Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, March 5

5:00PM: Ralph Britson

Sunday, March 6

8:00AM: Saint Cecilia Parishioners

9:30AM: Ronald Laws

11:15AM: Rose Marie Hadaway

5:00PM: Youth of the Area

Tuesday, March 8

7:00AM: Eleanor Anderson

Wednesday, March 9

7:00AM: Rose Banford

9:00AM: John Richard

Thursday, March 10

7:00AM: Jack Gehm

Friday, March 11

7:00AM: Konrady/Daniels Deceased

Saturday, March 12

5:00PM: Ralph Britson

Sunday, March 13

8:00AM: Camilla Frame

9:30AM: Saint Cecilia Parishioners

11:15AM: Richard Lang

Prayer Opportunities

Estaciones de la Cruz: 5:00PM, Viernes

Stations of the Cross: 7:00PM, Friday during Lent, Church

Evening Prayer: Monday through Friday, 5:00PM in the Chapel

Eucharistic Adoration: The Chapel is always open for prayer. Lenten Children's Holy Hour, 4-5:00PM on Sunday

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

Please remember in your prayers:

FR. KENT BIERGANS OFM Conv., Former Provincial of the Franciscan Friars, who recently passed away. May the Lord grant peace and consolation to his Franciscan family in their time of need. May he, and all who sleep in Christ, find in God's presence, light, happiness and peace.

Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.



Readings for the Week of March 6, 2005

Sunday: 1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a/ Eph 5:8-14/ Jn 9:1-41

Monday: Is 65:17-21/ Jn 4:43-54

Tuesday: Ez 47:1-9, 12/ Jn 5:1-16

Wednesday: Is 49:8-15/ Jn 5:17-30

Thursday: Ex 32:7-14/ Jn 5:31-47

Friday: Wis 2:1a, 12-22/ Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30

Saturday: Jer 11:18-20/ Jn 7:40-53

Next Sunday: Ez 37:12-14/ Rom 8:8-11/ Jn 11:1-45