

Saint Cecilia Catholic Community

2900 Hoover Avenue, Ames, IA 50010
Fax: 515-233-6423

First Sunday of Advent

PARISH STAFF

Pastor

Father Terry Rassmussen, OFM Conv.
TRassmussen@aol.com

Deacons

Gary Aitchison, John McCully, Richard Tondra

Office..... 233-3092

Arlene Stacy, FCBA, Business Manager
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Robert Hauser, Director of Music & Liturgy
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Therese Baker, Community Life Coordinator
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Religious Education.....232-3514

John Hayes, Director
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Joe Lawlor, Coordinator of Youth Ministry
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Annette Kelch, Secretary
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School.....232-5290

Duane Siepker, Principal
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Lois Vidimos, Administrative Assistant
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Parish fax number: 233-6423

Catholic Charities 296-2759
Office located at St. Thomas Aquinas

Mass Schedule

Weekend: Saturday, 5:00PM
Sunday, 8:00, 9:30 & 11:15AM
1st & 3rd Sunday, 5:00PM
(Misa en Español)

Weekday: Tuesday thru Friday, 7:00 AM
Holyday: Consult the bulletin

Advent

Quietly, in whispered
softness the curtain of night
descends. A restless world

stands hushed,
a special
time begins...



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November 27, 2005

www.stceciliaparish.org



December 4: 12:30PM

December 7: after 5:30PM Mass*

December 11: 5:00PM

*Note change of time

Topic for December -*Images of the Messiah*

Classes meet the 1st & 3rd Sunday during 9:30AM Mass.

December dates: 4, 18

December 3/4: Bake Sale (Middle school families—please bring your baked goods to the school kitchen on Saturday, December 3, (4-6:00PM)

December 14: Meet in the Multi-Purpose Room from 7-8:00PM for fun and friends.

Classes meet Sundays, 7:00-8:30PM, **in addition to** the Generations of Faith program.

December dates: 4, 18

Scripture Study: Meets Mondays, 7:30-9:00PM in the Adult/Youth room. Next Session: November 28.

Tuesday Morning Bible Study: Meets 9:30-11:00AM in the A/Y room. **Beginners welcome.** Baby sitting provided. Next session: November 29.

Sunday Scripture Study: This group reads and reflects upon the Scriptures for the next Sunday. Next session, Thursday, December 1, 10:15AM in the A/Y Room.

The Rite of Christian Initiation is the process through which people learn about the Catholic faith and are welcomed into the Church. RCIA meetings take place in the A/Y Room following the 9:30AM Mass on Sundays. There is still time to join the RCIA process. Call 232-3514 for more information.

Our next preparation session is **Thursday, December 1, 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 for the preparation class or schedule a baptism, please call the parish office at 233-3092. Baptisms are scheduled at 1:00PM, December 4 and 8:00AM, January 8.

Religious Gift & Book Sale December 3/4 in the Education Center following all masses. A great opportunity to purchase Christmas gifts as well as Advent and spiritual resources. Sponsored by the Family Life Committee.

The Joy of Forgiveness, a recently published book by parishioner Sandy Hoenig will be available during the book sale. Forgiveness is both personal empowerment and spiritual healing. The book takes you on a six stage journey to forgiveness. It includes strategies you can use in your personal and professional life to avoid or resolve hurtful situations and to teach youth how to make forgiveness a way of life.

Connectus will again be selling **Olive Wood** from the Holy Land in support of the Christian community in the occupied West Bank in Israel through Holy Land Ecumenical Foundation. Even though some improvement of tourism has come to the West Bank Christians, this population still is severely restricted in its basic freedoms of movement for everyday life that we enjoy. Our support is still greatly needed. Please help us support them through the purchase of an Olive Wood item. We will be located in the Education Center's **after each mass December 3/4 & 10/11.**

St. Gerard Circle will meet Thursday, December 1, 7:00PM at the Abington on Grand Care Center. Members will sing Christmas carols and distribute ornaments made at the November meeting. Following caroling, the circle will meet at the home of Mary Stevermer, 2607 Tyler. If you would like to go caroling and visit with St. Gerard members afterward, please contact Nel Cochran at 663-0764.

St. Mary Circle will meet Thursday, December 1, 6:30PM, for a salad supper at the home of Audrey Marley.

Fellowship for Moms/Playgroup meets 10:00-11:30AM in the A/Y Room. Next session Wednesday, November 30.

Communal Penance: Monday, December 19, 7:30PM

Mass Times

Immaculate Conception Holy Day of Obligation

December 7: 5:30PM

December 8: 7:00AM, 9:00AM, 7:30PM

December 12: 5:30PM- Our Lady of Guadalupe Mass

Christmas

December 24: 4:00PM (Children's), 6:30PM & 11:00PM.

December 25: 10:00AM

New Year's Eve/ Day

The regular weekend schedule will be followed December 31/January 1.

Religious Education

for the whole parish family

Generations of Faith

Preschool Religious Education (Ages 3&4)

Middle School Youth Group (Grades 6-8)

High School Youth Ministry (Grades 9-12)

Adult Education

RCIA

BAPTISM

MEETINGS/EVENTS

Mark Your Calendars



Thanksgiving break: Classes resume November 29.
November 30: Mass in Chapel; Grades K-3

We are servants of God, each with his or her own task. We will be judged good stewards if, at His coming, He finds us ready and conscientiously pursuing the tasks to which we have been called.

Children's Liturgy

Children's Liturgy held at the 9:30 & 11:15 AM Masses, will be suspended during winter months since the children need to go outside to reach the Chapel.

Family & Parenting Classes

The Growing Kids Program will begin again in January with a new name but the same objectives. The class is a practical application parenting course where you will learn the joy of raising children to reflect the character of God. The main objective is to train parents to raise children charitably by living charitably. Join us in this life changing perspective on growing up godly families that will impact generations to come! Informational meeting coming soon. Watch the bulletin for details.

Christmas Eve Family Liturgy

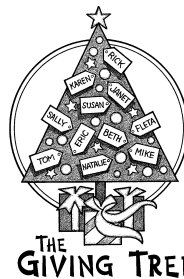
We are now planning the Family Liturgy for the Christmas Eve 4:00PM service. Once again we will need as many families (adults-teens-children) as possible to be involved in the play, music ministry, and other liturgical roles. Any type of volunteer help will be greatly appreciated. Sign-up forms may be found at the Religious Ed office or the Music/Liturgy bulletin board in the Chapel hallway. Forms will need to be returned to the Religious Education office by Friday, December 9. Any questions, contact Bob Hauser at 233-3092.

The Generations of Faith Program needs a large number of volunteers to make it successful. Current needs include Catechists, Assistant Catechists, child care and food preparation. To volunteer, call the Religious Education Office (232-3514).

Provide a Ride to Mass

A parishioner on 16th Street would appreciate a ride to 5:00PM mass on Saturdays. Please call 233-3092 if you are able to help.

The Giving Tree



Please take one or more of the TAG ORNAMENTS from the tree and use as a gift label. Over 700 gifts are needed and will be distributed to the following: Bethany Manor, The Richmond Center, The Abington on Grand, Mary Greeley Adolescent Psych Ward, Riverside Manor, Saint Cecilia Home Ministry, Youth & Shelter Services, and Lutheran Social Services of Iowa. Check the poster near the tree to match the tag ornament color with the organization you wish to purchase a gift for.

Suggestions for gifts include the following:

MAN— shaving lotion, powder, stationery, greeting cards, envelopes, books, dried fruit, jewelry, hairbrush, poster, calendar, flashlights, phone cards, gift certificates, slipper socks, lap blankets, white t-shirts (L or XL) and playing cards. Please NO candles or candy.

LADY— body lotion, powder, stationery, greeting cards, envelopes, books, dried fruit, jewelry, hairbrush, poster, calendar, panty hose, knee highs, floral arrangements, slippers, stuffed animal, perfume, scarves, picture frames, cut glass or crystal window decorations, bath & body soaps and sprays, sun catchers, disposable cameras, phone card, gift certificates, sweaters (L or XL), or word search books. Please NO candles or candy.

CHILDREN, TEENAGERS AND YOUNG ADULTS— games, cards, stuffed animal, clothing, craft sets, toys, coloring books, crayons, craft sets, toys, personal items, school supplies, backpacks, soccer balls (size 3,4, or 5) basket balls, new packages of underwear and socks, phone cards, gift certificates, and bath & body soaps and sprays. Please NO knives or sharp objects.

Gifts are to be taken to the Education Center Adult/ Youth Room on Saturday, December 10, 4:00-7:00PM or Sunday, December 11, 7:30AM-1:00PM. Gifts may also be taken to the Parish Office 8:00AM-4:30PM, Monday-Friday. Please **DO NOT** leave any gifts in the Church.



Christmas Cards Available

The Knights of Columbus have **Keep Christ in Christmas Cards** available in the back of the church. Cards are priced \$6.50-\$10,00 per box.

Looking of a Unique Gift. Visit the **Alternative Gift Market** Table after all Masses next weekend in the Education Center.

Position Available

Saint Cecilia Parish is searching for a full time business manager. Responsibilities include financial, facility, property and church office management. Requirements: Four-year degree in accounting, business or finance. Related areas of experience will be given consideration. Three years of administrative/business manager experience and supervisory responsibility preferred. Salary commensurate with experience. Send resume and salary requirements to:

Search Committee-Business Manager, Saint Cecilia Church, 2900 Hoover Avenue, Ames, IA 50010 or e-mail: BusMgrSearch@stceciliaparish.org.

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

First Sunday of Advent



First Sunday of Advent

Christmas dinner in most homes is planned weeks in advance. Guests are expected; we must be ready for them with a magnificent feast. On that day, a perfect choreography of timing will ensure that everything arrives on the table hot and ready to eat. But what if we had no idea what time our guests would be arriving? Would we still be prepared? How would we greet them when they finally do arrive?

On this first Sunday of Advent, we are given to recall and renew our greatest expectation, the coming of our

Lord Jesus Christ. Just as the faithful prepared for the glorious coming of the Messiah, no one knew the hour or even the day, let alone that this coming would be in such a humble place as a stable in Bethlehem. Likewise, Jesus cautions us that not even the angels in heaven know when the Son of God will return. "What I say to you, then, I say to all: Watch!"

As we remember the anticipation of the coming of the Messiah and renew our spirits to prepare for Christ's return, we must know that there is "no surer pledge or clearer sign of this great hope in the new heavens and new earth ... than the Eucharist." (CCC, 1405) We are anxiously awaiting the most glorious of guests, who promises to be with us soon if we only live through his eyes and his heart now. Our meal is prepared, our feast is ready. Are we?

Dear Supporters of Israel Family Hospice House, On behalf of Israel Family Hospice House staff, volunteers, patients, their families and their friends let me first say thank you to those of you who have already donated individually wrapped snack items and beverage mixes for the hospitality table at Hospice House.

I am now coming to area church members with another request. We also need fresh baked goods on a regular basis for the hospitality table. This table is such a bright spot in the lives of family and friends of hospice patients as they maintain vigil in the final days and hours of their loved ones. It would be ideal to eventually have someone signed up for each day of the month on a regular basis. You choose the day (1st Wednesday, for example) that works best for you. If you are able to assist or have questions regarding this worthwhile endeavor, please contact Pauletti Lasley at 233-9662. Thank you again for your support.

Sincerely,
Pauletti Lasley



Saint Cecilia Choir will practice Wednesday, November 30, 7:00PM in the Music Room.

When I am before the Blessed Sacrament I feel such a lively faith that I can't describe it. Christ in the Eucharist is almost tangible to me...When it is time for me to leave, I have to tear myself away from His sacred presence.

-- St Anthony of Claret

New Year's Retreat:

December 30-January 1

Director, Rev. Ken Glaser, Chaplain at St. Stephen the Witness Student Center. Theme: *Reflecting on the Past-Celebrating the Present-Preparing for the Future.* For more information contact the American Martyrs Retreat House 319-266-3543 or

Readings for the Week of November 27, 2005

Sunday: Is 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7/ 1 Cor 1:3-9/ Mk 13:33-37
Monday: Is 2:1-5/ Mt 8:5-11
Tuesday: Is 11:1-10/ Lk 10:21-24
Wednesday: Rom 10:9-18/ Mt 4:18-22
Thursday: Is 26:1-6/ Mt 7:21, 24-27
Friday: Is 29:17-24/ Mt 9:27-31
Saturday: Is 30:19-21, 23-26/ Mt 9:35-10:1, 5a, 6-8
Next Sunday: Is 40:1-5, 9-11/ 2 Pt 3:8-14/ Mk 1:1-8

Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, November 26

5:00PM: Sr. Gene Marie

Sunday, November 27

8:00AM: Saint Cecilia Parishioners

9:30AM: Dutch Stohlmeyer

11:15AM: Sylvia Zuppari

Tuesday, November 29

7:00AM: Rita Voss

Wednesday, November 30

7:00AM: John Richard

9:00AM: Cecilia Elbert

Thursday, December 1

9:00AM: Richard Lang

Friday, December 2

7:00AM: Linus Putz

Saturday, December 3

5:00PM: Anton Uthe

Sunday, December 4

8:00AM: Kathy Pelzer

9:30AM: Saint Cecilia Parishioners

11:15AM: Ronald Laws

5:00PM: Youth of the Area

(Misa en Español)

Prayer Opportunities

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

Eucharistic Adoration: The Chapel is always open for prayer.

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

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

Christians in the Spirit: Tuesday, 7:15-9:00PM, Chapel

Saturday Morning Prayer: 7:00AM, Chapel

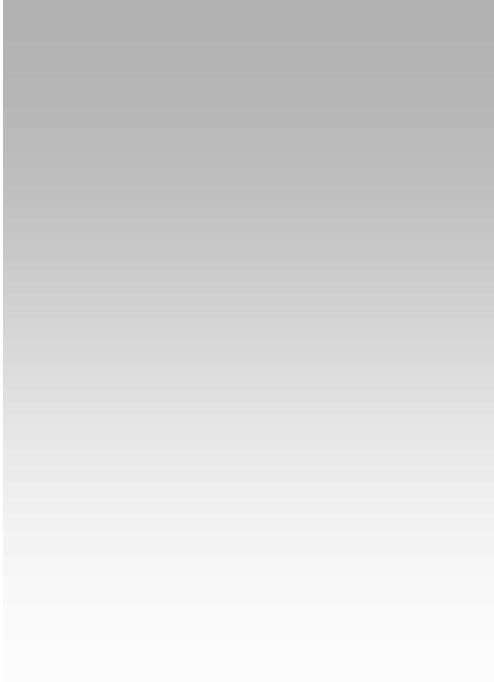
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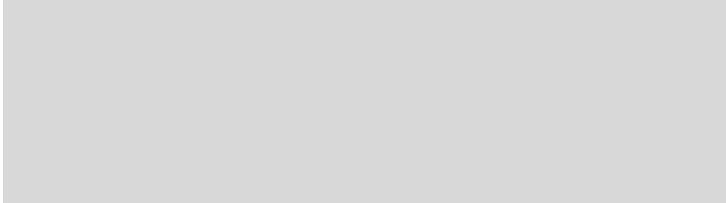
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Next Sunday: Is 40:1-5, 9-11/ 2 Pt 3:8-14/ Mk 1:1-8



COMMUNITY



Those in our parish and the community who are ill.



DBQAMRH@arch.pvt.k12.ia.us