

Saint Cecilia Catholic Community

December 4, 2005

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

www.stceciliaparish.org

Second Sunday of Advent

PARISH STAFF

Pastor

Father Terry Rassmussen, OFM Conv.
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Deacons

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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 (Primo & tercer Domingo)

Mass in Spanish in the Chapel (Misa en Español a la Capilla)

Weekday: Tuesday thru Friday, 7:00 AM

Holyday: December 7, 5:30PM

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



Religious Education

for the whole parish family

Generations of Faith

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*



Preschool Religious Education (Ages 3&4)

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

December dates: 4, 18

Middle School Youth Group (Grades 6-8)

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 7-8:30PM for fun and friends.

High School Youth Ministry (Grades 9-12)

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

December dates: 4, 18

Adult Education

Scripture Study: Meets Mondays, 7:30-9:00PM in the Adult/Youth room. Next Session: December 5.

Tuesday Morning Bible Study: Meets 9:30-11:00AM in the A/Y room. **Beginners welcome.** Baby sitting provided. Next session: December 6.

Sunday Scripture Study: This group reads and reflects upon the Scriptures for the next Sunday. Next session, Thursday, December 8, 10:15AM in the A/Y Room.

RCIA

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.

BAPTISM

Our next preparation session is **Thursday, February 2, 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 8:00AM Mass January 8 and 1:00PM, February 5.

Weekend Events

in the Education Center

Religious Book & Gift Sale after all Masses. A great opportunity to purchase Christmas gifts as well as Advent and spiritual resources. Sponsored by the Family Life Committee.

Olive Wood Sale after all masses. Your purchase of these beautiful items made in the Holy Land helps support the Christian community in the occupied West Bank of Israel. Olive Wood items will also be available December 10/11.

Sponsored by Connectus

Bake Sale fundraiser for the Middle School Youth Group

Alternative Gift Market after all Masses. 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 United States.

MEETINGS/EVENTS

Catholic Daughters will meet December 8, 6:00PM, for a Christmas dinner at the home of Peggy Jacobson, 2732 Thompson Drive. Please bring an unwrapped gift for Seasons of Giving and \$5.00 for the Food Committee. The program will be Christmas Carols.

Fellowship for Moms/Playgroup meets 10:00-11:30AM in the A/Y Room. Next session Wednesday, December 7.



Parish Breakfast

December 11

After the 8:00AM & 9:30AM Masses.

The RCIA Candidates and Catechumens will prepare and serve egg casserole and fruit cups. Please come and meet the RCIA class.

Mark Your Calendars

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

Our Lady of Guadalupe Mass

December 12: 5:30PM en español; la siguiente un "potluck."

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.

Saint Cecilia School News



December 8: 9:00AM –All School Mass
December 15: Christmas Concert, 7:00PM Ames City Auditorium. Doors open at 6:30PM

Children's Liturgy

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

Family & Parenting Classes

Do your kids listen and obey the first time? Impossible you say? Learn about first time obedience through Forming Kids for Christ. Forming Kids for Christ, formerly Growing Kids God's Way will begin classes on Friday, January 20th. This class is a practical application parenting course where you will learn the joy of raising children to reflect the character of God. Join us in this life changing perspective on growing godly families that will impact generations to come! For more information, please contact: Matt & Dawn Aitchison 515-795-4224 or porchdaisy@iowatelecom.net

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 Education 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.

Children's Choir Practice for the Family Liturgy on 4:00PM Christmas Eve Mass are scheduled for Monday, December 19 and Thursday, December 22 at 4:00PM. Rehearsals will be in the Church and will last about 45 minutes. Use the southwest entrance by the piano to enter the Church. Any questions, contact Bob Hauser at 233-3092.



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.

Help with Winterization the Knights of Columbus are offering help with home winterization projects for people needing this assistance. Please contact Tom Samson at 233-1950 for more information.

Stewardship John the Baptist's call to repentance is echoed in the US bishops pastoral letter on stewardship: "Christians must beg God for the grace of conversion: the grace to know who they are to whom they belong, how they are to live—the grace to repent and change and grow, the grace to become good disciples and stewards."

Service Opportunity for Families and Students!

Appalachia Committee needs help in loading its Christmas truck with toys, clothing, and household items for families in Appalachia. Young children sort clothing, older individuals load the truck. Saturday December 10th, 9:00AM at 2019 Pullman. Questions call Dan Bahr 292-6784.



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. Drop boxes are just inside the garage door. Please **DO NOT** leave any gifts in the Church.

Second Sunday of Advent

Many of us begin and end our days by watching the weather forecast. When we do, we learn if we will need sunglasses or an umbrella.



We must be ready for any circumstance. A prediction of rain brings mixed reactions; we are glad for the refreshment it will bring to the grass and flowers, but we grimace at the thought of dashing between the drops to stay dry. If the forecast is good, we greet the day with a bit more joy and anticipation.

"Make a straight path!" The prophet Isaiah foretold of a messenger that would announce the coming of the Lord. John the Baptist was that messenger. To all who would

listen, he preached of confession of sins, and baptized with water those who asked for forgiveness. And still he promised that all who would continue to ask for forgiveness and believe in Jesus Christ would be baptized with the Holy Spirit. The Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches us that our baptism is but the beginning of our journey of faith. "Preparation for baptism leads only to the threshold of new life. Baptism is the source of that new life in Christ from which the entire Christian life springs forth." (CCC, 1254) As John the Baptist forecast the coming of Jesus Christ, this Advent season let us renew our baptismal promise. Let us ask for forgiveness of our sins, and seek the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

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Mass Intentions for the Week

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)

Tuesday, December 6

7:00AM: Mary Wren

Wednesday, December 7

7:00AM: Doug Conley

5:30PM: Fr. Arnold Dearing

Thursday, December 8

7:00AM: St. Cecilia Circle

9:00AM: Augusta Priester

7:30PM: Don Finnegan

Friday, December 9

7:00AM: Jack Gehm

Saturday, December 10

5:00PM: Margaret Lang

Sunday, December 11

8:00AM: Konrady/Daniels
deceased

9:30AM: Rose Marie Hadaway

11:15AM: St. Cecilia Parishioners

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

COMMUNITY

Walk Through Bethlehem

Experience Bethlehem as it was 2000 years ago on a self-guided journey featuring: The Prophet Isaiah telling of the coming of Christ; an opportunity to sign the census book; money changers who will give you coins of the era; a Bedouin camp, an ancient vineyard, a marketplace with baskets, rope making, metalwork, pottery, fish, jewelry, sand art and more; Biblical food, ancient crafts and games and so much more! **Your journey ends at the stable where you can reflect on the true meaning of Christmas.**

Collegiate Presbyterian Church, 159 North Sheldon.

December 4: 2-5:00PM (last group admitted at 4:00PM)

There is no charge. Handicapped accessible.



Thank you to those who support Saint Cecilia parish with gifts of treasure. Your gifts are needed and appreciated. Gifts that are received or post-marked by December 31 will be included in 2005 donations. Please contact the parish office before making a stock donation and allow a week to

process. Parish offices will close at noon December 23 and be open limited hours December 27-30.



Those in our parish and the community who are ill.

Please remember in your prayers:

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



Frank Pershern, father of Mary Kay Polashek, who recently passed away. May the Lord grant peace and consolation to their families in their time of need. May they, and all who sleep in Christ, find in God's presence, light, happiness and peace.

Readings for the Week of December 4, 2005

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

Monday: Is 35:1-10/ Lk 5:17-26

Tuesday: Is 40:1-11/ Mt 18:12-14

Wednesday: Is 40:25-31/ Mt 11:28-30

Thursday: Gn 3:9-15, 20/ Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/ Lk 1:26-38

Friday: Is 48:17-19/ Mt 11:16-19

Saturday: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11/ Mt 17:9a, 10-13