

# Saint Cecilia Catholic Community

December 11, 2005

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

[www.stceciliaparish.org](http://www.stceciliaparish.org)

Third Sunday of Advent

## 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  
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Robert Hauser, Director of Music & Liturgy  
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Religious Education.....232-3514

John Hayes, Director  
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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 (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 11: 5:00PM

Topic for December - *Images of the Messiah*

### Preschool Religious Education (Ages 3&4)

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

December date: 18

### First Eucharist Meetings

January 4: 7:00PM (Parents only) in the Church

January 9\*: 6:30PM (Parent/Child) in the Church

\*Note change of date

### Middle School Youth Group (Grades 6-8)

**December 14:** Bring a friend and join the fun at Youth Group from 7-8:30PM in the Multi-Purpose Room.

**MIDDLE SCHOOL LOCK-IN: December 29, 8:30PM-**

December 30, 7:45AM. Meet in the Multi-Purpose Room.

A bus will provide transportation to the movies, midnight bowling and other fun things. **Needed:** a signed permission slip, \$10 (movies and bowling), a snack to share, and a sleeping bag.

### High School Youth Ministry (Grades 9-12)

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

December date: 18

### Adult Education

**Scripture Study:** Meets Mondays, 7:30-9:00PM in the Adult/Youth room. Next Session: December 12.

**Tuesday Morning Bible Study:** Meets 9:30-11:00AM in the A/Y room. **Beginners welcome.** Baby sitting provided. Next session: December 13.

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

### 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.

## December Schedule

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

**Private Reconciliation:**

Thursday, December 22, 11:30-12:30PM

Friday, December 23, 7-8:00PM

**Mass Times:**

**Our Lady of Guadalupe Mass**

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

Potluck celebration to follow in A/Y Room

**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.

## MEETINGS/EVENTS

### 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.



### 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

### St. Anne Circle

will meet Tuesday, December 13, 9:00AM at the home of Marlene Michaud, 2126 Buchanan Drive. Please bring Christmas cards to the meeting.

### St. Gertrude Circle

will attend Mass at 7:00AM, Tuesday, December 13, followed by a breakfast in the rectory living room.

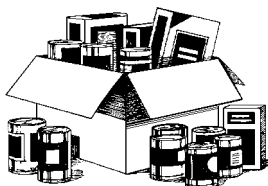
**Fellowship for Moms/Playgroup** meets 10:00-11:30AM in the A/Y Room. Next session Wednesday, December 14. Will **not** meet December 21 & 28.

### Sixty Plus Group

will **NOT** meet in December. Next potluck is January 24.

### Good Samaritan/Food Shelf:

next weekend is our Good Samaritan/Food Shelf Collection weekend. Suggested items include baby foods, canned meat products, packaged shelf-stable main meals, hamburger helper, peanut butter, pasta, spaghetti sauce, canned fruit, cereal, toiletries, and disposable diapers. Thank you for your continued generous support; donations are especially important as the holidays approach.



## Saint Cecilia School News



December 15: Christmas Concert, 7:00PM Ames City Auditorium. Doors open at 6:30PM  
December 22-January 3: Christmas Break  
January 4: Classes resume

**Children's Choir Practices** for the Family Liturgy at 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.

**Adult Choir** will practice Wednesday, December 14, 7:00PM in the Music Room.



### Christmas Cards Available

The Knights of Columbus have **Keep Christ in Christmas Cards** available after Mass or near the Chapel. Cards are priced \$6.50-\$10.00 per box.

### Winterization Help Offered

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.

### Parking Lot Accident

On November 30 between 10:30AM and noon a Saint Cecilia staff member's car was parked in the south lot near the A/Y room entrance. The vehicle was hit on the left front fender damaging approximately a 6 square inch hole and ruining the front cowling of the car. It is common courtesy to leave your name and address on the windshield or report the incident to the parish office. Many times one's insurance will cover such an accident. If anyone is aware of the accident please contact the business manager in the parish office.



**Thank you** to those who support Saint Cecilia parish with gifts of treasure. Your gifts are needed and appreciated. Contributions received or postmarked 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 remain closed until January 3.**

**Stewardship** All of the people in today's readings—the prophet Isaiah, The Virgin Mary, St. Paul, St. John the Baptist—seemed to understand clearly and rejoice in that God was calling them to be and to do. Do I?

## The Giving Tree



Remember to bring your gifts to the Adult/ Youth room this weekend. Someone will accept your gifts from 4-7:00PM on December 10 and from 7:30AM-1:00PM December 11. Attach the tag ornament to the wrapped gift with the contents marked. **Gift sorting will begin at 1:00PM, December 11.**

Please **DO NOT** leave any gifts in the Church.

**Catechists Needed:** Generations of Faith needs additional catechists for grades K-2 and grades 3-5. Call John at 232-3514 if you can help.

**Wanted:** All cotton sheets (preferably white) to be used by St. Gerard Circle members to make bandages. Call Carolyn Konechne (232-3399) by December 30 if you are able to help.

### Gala

**Is there still time to get involved in support of the Saint Cecilia Gala?** Yes! Several gift-gathering parties are planned for the months of December and January. Plan to attend one and share a gift for the Gala auctions. Opportunities also remain for committee help and financial sponsorship or simply the purchase of Gala tickets which will be available after Masses beginning in January. Visit the website for more details.

**What sorts of treasures will be available at the Gala auctions?** You will have the opportunity to bid on home cooked meals and desserts delivered to your door, unique children's parties and fabulous adult get-togethers, tickets to your favorite sporting events, handmade quilts, autographed memorabilia, trips, landscaping, auto maintenance, room makeovers, spa packages, pet boarding and grooming and even orthodontic care as your fellow parishioners share their unique skills and talents with you in support of the children of our parish community. Watch the bulletin and visit the Gala website, [www.stcamesgala.org](http://www.stcamesgala.org), for more specific details.

**Gala proceeds will benefit all of the educational programs of this parish.**



**Thanks to everyone** for making our Bake Sale a success! We greatly appreciate the delicious baked goods from our middle school families, our volunteers and the support of our parish in purchasing our treats!

Middle School Youth Group

## Third Sunday in Advent



On this third Sunday of Advent, we light the rose-colored candle on the Advent wreath. This candle symbolizes the midway point of our journey to the celebration of the birth of Jesus. Candles themselves can represent many things to us. We can warm our hands around the flame; we can hold it in front of us to help us find our way. But candles unlit are merely wax and string; someone must light them for their full use to take effect.

John the Baptist knew that in preparation for the coming of Christ, he must light a candle. When the priests and the Levites questioned him as to his identity, he replied that he was the lone voice in the wilderness, preparing the way for the Lord. John was fully prepared to offer a lighted path to the one who would be our true Light, but he was also reminding those around him that they, too, must prepare themselves to receive the light of Christ.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches us that John the Baptist completed the cycle of prophets begun with Elijah. But he also began what is described as the restoration of mankind to "the divine likeness," a full understanding of what we would achieve with and in Christ (CCC 720). This Advent season, let us prepare as John did; light a path for the coming of Christ, open our hearts to welcome him in to our lives.

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## COMMUNITY

### Ames Choral Society, Holiday Concert Sunday, December 11, 3:00PM, St. Andrew's Lutheran Church

The Ames Choral Society will present "Rise up and Rejoice!" music for the holiday season, with the Central Iowa Brass Quintet. Tickets are \$8.

### New Year's Retreat: December 30-January 1

What a beautiful gift to give to someone special or to yourself.  
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 [DBQAMRH@arch.pvt.k12.ia.us](mailto:DBQAMRH@arch.pvt.k12.ia.us)



### Please remember in your prayers:

**MARTHA LARSON**, sister of Christina Baldus, and **CLIFFORD COLLETTE**, brother of Helen Michaud, 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.

### Bulletin Deadline

One edition will be printed for December 25/ January 1. **Deadline for articles is 8:00AM, Monday, December 19.** Plan ahead for early January events.



## Mass Intentions for the Week

### Saturday, December 10

5:00PM: Margaret Lang

### Sunday, December 11

8:00AM: Konrady/Daniels deceased

9:30AM: Rose Marie Hadaway

11:15AM: Saint Cecilia Parishioners

### Tuesday, December 13

7:00AM: Iva J. La Page

### Wednesday, December 14

7:00AM: Darlene & Jerrol Carlson

### Thursday, December 15

7:00AM: Margaret Lang

### Friday, December 16

7:00AM: Wesley Hotka

### Saturday, December 17

5:00PM: Saint Cecilia Parish

### Sunday, December 18

8:00AM: Catholic Daughters

9:30AM: Marvin Rader

11:15AM: Orpha & Gene Walsh

5:00PM: For an end to Abortion  
(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

**Parish Cook Books** make great Christmas gifts. Pick up a copy at the parish office. Price: \$20

Those in our parish and the community who are ill.

## Readings for the Week of December 11, 2005

Sunday: Is 61:1-2a, 10-11/ 1 Thes 5:16-24/ Jn 1:6-8, 19-28  
Monday: Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/ Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47  
Tuesday: Zep 3:1-2, 9-13/ Mt 21:28-32  
Wednesday: Is 45:6b-8, 18, 21b-25/ Lk 7:18b-23  
Thursday: Is 54:1-10/ Lk 7:24-30  
Friday: Is 56:1-3a, 6-8/ Jn 5:33-36  
Saturday: Gn 49:2, 8-10/ Mt 1:1-17  
Next Sunday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/ Rom 16:25-27/ Lk 1:26-38