

Saint Cecilia Catholic Community

December 18, 2005

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

www.stceciliaparish.org

Fourth 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
astacy@stceciliaparish.org

Robert Hauser, Director of Music & Liturgy
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Joan Jones, Administrative Assistant
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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
dsiepker@stceciliaparish.org

Lois Vidimos, Administrative Assistant
lvidimos@stceciliaparish.org

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

January 8, 12:30PM, January 11, 5:30PM, January 15, 5:00PM

January topic: *Peace*

Presenters: Deacon and Mrs. Aitchison

Preschool Religious Education (Ages 3&4)

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

December date: 18

January date: 15

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)

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

January dates: 8, 22, 29

Upcoming Events

Youth 2000, January 6, 7, 8 at Dowling High School. "Come Experience His Glory". Registration deadline: December 30.

Stebbenville North, July 28-30 at Saint Thomas University, St. Paul, Minnesota. "Three days of Life Changing Experiences".

Contact Joe Lawlor at 232-3514 or jlawlor@stceciliaparish.org. if you are interested in either event.

Adult Education

Scripture Study: Meets Mondays, 7:30-9:00PM in the Adult/Youth room. Next Session: December 19.

Tuesday Morning Bible Study: Meets 9:30-11:00AM in the A/Y room. **Beginners welcome.** Baby sitting provided. Next session: December 20.

Sunday Scripture Study: Next session, Thursday, January 5, 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 Reconciliation

Monday, December 19, 7:30PM

Private Reconciliation:

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

Friday, December 23, 7-8:00PM

Mass Times:

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

Hanging of the Greens

Sunday December 18, 1:00PM

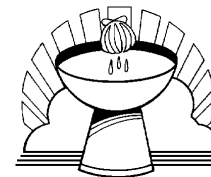
Come join in the fun. Help decorate the Church with boughs of holly! If you cannot participate at 1:00PM you may choose to be part of the clean-up crew starting at approximately 3:15PM.



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.

Forming Kids for Christ Family and Parenting Class

Do you really ENJOY your children? Do others? If you are not sure, bring joy back into parenting through Forming Kids for Christ. This class is a practical application parenting course where you will learn the joy of raising children to reflect the character of God. Classes will begin January 20. For more information please contact Dawn Aitchison at 515-795-4224 porchdaisy@iowatelecom.net.



Baptisms

Charlotte Rose, daughter of Matt & Dawn Aitchison

Anthony Paul, son of Ryan & Tina Colburn

Zachary Edwin, son of Nicholas & Sara Hoffman

Isabelle Marie, daughter of Richard & Andrea Nelson

Kamryn Bailey, daughter of Trenton & Cherice Ogg

Lilly Michelle, daughter of Adam & Emily Ostert

Nora Sue, daughter of Jonathan & Stacy Ryan

Alyssa Marie Marcolini, daughter of

Brent & Saran Swanson

Nicolette Audrey, daughter of Hendra Tandradinata

& Aulia Hardjasamudra

Saint Cecilia School News



December 22-January 3: Christmas Break
January 4: Classes resume

Eucharistic Adoration Break

Scheduled Adoration will stop at 7:00AM, Friday, December 23 and resume at 7:00AM, Tuesday, January 3.

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 21, 7:00PM in the Music Room.

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.

Saint Cecilia Parish Welcomes Community Life Coordinator

Saint Cecilia Parish welcomes Therese Baker as the Community Life Coordinator. Therese has been a parishioner for over 10 years and along with her family has been involved in many parish activities.

She has previous experience as a Human Resources Manager and Executive Trainer and is pleased to be able to use these skills in furthering the mission and goals of Saint Cecilia Parish.

Therese says, "I truly believe that being an active part of the community is important to foster a sense of belonging. As the Community Life Coordinator I am looking forward to focusing on welcoming new parishioners, new babies, and helping match parishioners' interests/ talents with the many parish organizations and activities."

Contact her at the parish office if you have questions or would like to become involved. If you are interested in forming a new group (such as young singles, widows) at Saint Cecilia, Therese can offer assistance in finding others who might have the same interests.

Stewardship In the first reading, God promises King David that his house and his kingdom will endure forever. It is through Mary's "Yes" - "I am the handmaid of the Lord. Let it be done to me as you say." - that the promise finds fulfillment.



The Giving Tree

A BIG thank you to all who contributed gifts for the Giving Tree from both Saint Cecilia and Sts. Peter and Paul. We were challenged this year with the building project but everyone gratefully came through with 775 gifts that we sorted and boxed last Sunday. The following organizations received these gifts:

- ?? Bethany Manor Inc.
- ?? Richmond Center
- ?? The Abington on Grand
- ?? Mary Greeley Adolescent Psych Ward
- ?? Lutheran Services in Iowa
- ?? Youth and Shelter Services
- ?? Riverside Manor
- ?? Saint Cecilia Home Ministry.

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.

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.

Parish Cook Books are full of tantalizing recipes for the holidays. They also make great Christmas gifts. Copies available at the Parish Office. \$20.



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

Fourth Sunday in Advent



Today, Luke tells us of the angel Gabriel's visit to Mary with his good news. "You have found favor with God," he tells her, "and you will bear a son." Not only that, Gabriel tells her that Jesus is the Son of God, and a throne in heaven awaits him. What joyful news! Mary accepted the news, and further learned that her cousin Elizabeth was expecting as well. Filled with the Holy Spirit, Mary went to Elizabeth, eager to share her joy.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches us that only faith can embrace the mysterious ways of God's almighty power. The Virgin Mary is the supreme model of this faith, for she believed that "nothing will be impossible with God." (CCC 273) As we prepare for the celebration of Christmas, let us allow our faith to guide us as it did Mary, and let us be as eager to share the joy that is the coming of Jesus Christ.

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COMMUNITY

ACCESS is looking for volunteers to make a difference in the lives of survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault. Training dates are January 21, 22, 28, & 29 9:00AM-5:00PM and open to anyone who is 18 years or older. Volunteer positions include:

Shelter Shift Volunteers, (answer crisis line, staff the shelter, and provide crisis intervention to ACCESS clients)

Youth and Family Program Volunteers, (assist youth and Family Program Coordinator with children's groups and individual appointments)

Interns, (paired with a full-time staff member in their area of interest to gain valuable experience and training in the human service field)

Contact Nikki at 292-0500 or nikki@assaultcarecenter.org.

Community Christmas Dinner Christmas Day, Noon-2:30PM

First United Methodist Church
No cost, Rides available: 233-1613



Archdiocese

Marriage Encounter

Today's Psalm extols the goodness of God, does your marriage do the same? Let Worldwide Marriage Encounter strengthen your marriage to be a light to the world. The next opportunity is February 10-12 in Des Moines and Waverly. The Weekends start at 8:00PM Friday and end at 4:00PM, Sunday. All faiths welcome. Contact John & Deb at 641-755-3667 or jdcman88@netins.net.

Mass of Hope and Healing

The eighth annual Mass of Hope and Healing for parents, families and friends who have experienced the loss of a child of any age will be held December 28 at St. Mary's Church in Waverly. The 6:30PM Mass will be celebrated by Archbishop Hanus. A reception will follow. All are welcome.

Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, December 17

5:00PM: Saint Cecilia Parishioners

Sunday, December 18

8:00AM: Catholic Daughters

9:30AM: Marvin Rader

11:15AM: Orpha & Gene Walsh

Tuesday, December 20

7:00AM: Gladys Konechne

Wednesday, December 21

7:00AM: Jack Carr

Thursday, December 22

7:00AM: John Richard

Friday, December 23

7:00AM: Alice Foley

Saturday, December 24

4:00PM: Richard Lang

6:30PM: Saint Cecilia Parishioners

11:00PM: Shirley Reece

Sunday, December 25

10:00AM: Sylvia Zuppari

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

"Christmas, my child, is love in action. Every time we love, every time we give, it's Christmas." *Dale Evans Rogers*



Those in our parish and the community who are ill.

Readings for the Week of December 18, 2005

Sunday:	2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/ Rom 16:25-27/ Lk 1:26-38
Monday:	Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/ Lk 1:5-25
Tuesday:	Is 7:10-14/ Lk 1:26-38
Wednesday:	Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/ Lk 1:39-45
Thursday:	1 Sm 1:24-28/ Lk 1:46-66
Friday:	Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/ Lk 1:57-66
Saturday:	Morning: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/ Lk 1:67-79
Next Sunday:	Vigil: Is 62:1-5/ Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/ Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25