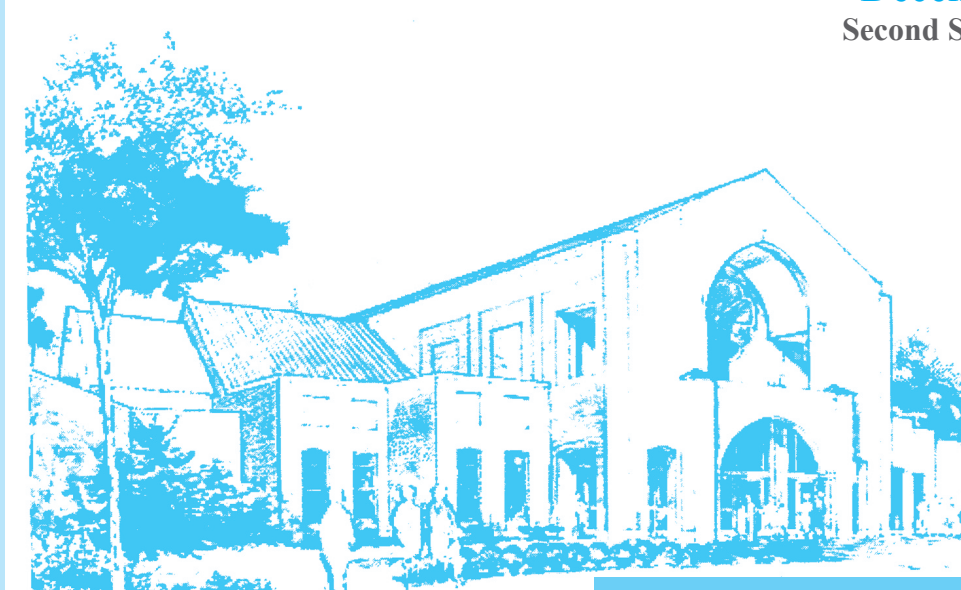


# Saint Cecilia Catholic Community

December 9, 2007  
Second Sunday of Advent



“Building for our Future”

**W**e 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.

## PARISH STAFF

### Pastor

Father Ivan Nienhaus  
nienhaus@stceciliaparish.org

### Deacons

Gary Aitchison, John McCully,  
Ron Smith, Richard Tondra

Office..... 233-3092

Jerry Greving, Business Manager  
jgreving@stceciliaparish.org

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

Joan Jones, Administrative Assistant  
jjones@stceciliaparish.org

Therese Baker, Community Life Coordinator  
tbaker@stceciliaparish.org

Rectory.....233-9477

Religious Education.....232-3514

John Hayes, Director  
jhayes@stceciliaparish.org

Anna Steele, Coordinator of Youth Ministry  
asteel@stceciliaparish.org

Annette Kelch, Secretary  
akelch@stceciliaparish.org

School.....232-5290

Duane Siepker, Principal  
dsiepker@stcames.com

Lois Vidimos, Administrative Assistant  
lvidimos@stcames.com

2900 Hoover Avenue, Ames, IA 50010

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

Fax Number 515-233-6423

## Mass Schedule

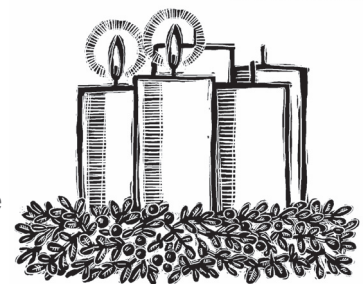
Weekend: Saturday, 5:00PM  
Sunday, 8:30AM & 10:30AM  
Sunday: 5:00PM Misa en Español, Chapel  
Weekday: Tuesday thru Friday, 7:00AM, Chapel

Reconciliation (Reconciliación) English & Español  
Saturday 3:30-4:30 PM or Anytime by appointment

## Prayer for Advent

**D**ear God,  
As an Advent candle is lit in joyous anticipation of your Son's nativity, remind us always of the reason for our joy. As the purple of the candles stand for both penance and atonement for sin, give us the grace to do penance for our wrongs and to love Christ, whose sacrifice atoned for the sins of the whole world. But just as the rose candle stands for joy in the midst of suffering and expectation, give us the joy of your Son, Jesus Christ, who came into a world that had so longed for its Savior, and made the angels themselves sing with joy at his birth. *Amen.*

## Second Sunday in Advent



## Religious Education

for the whole parish family

### Preschool & Kindergarten

Classes are held the 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month during the 10:30AM Mass. December date: 17

### Grades 1-5

Monday, 6:15-7:30PM— December class dates: 10, 17

First Reconciliation Rescheduled to January 12, 10:00AM

Wednesday, 4:00-5:15PM — December class dates: 12, 19

### Middle School Youth Group - YIKES

Classes Wednesday, 7:00-8:30PM — December dates: 12, 19

Wednesday, December 12: Regular YIKES night. 7:00PM, Multi-purpose room. Join us for some Christmas Cheer. Bring your friends!!!

Visit the Webpage at [www.stceciliaparish.org](http://www.stceciliaparish.org), go to "Middle School Youth Group" for a schedule of activities.

### Youth Ministry Grades 9-12

Glory: December 19, 7-9:00PM: High School Reconciliation

\*Required for 10th graders.

For Youth Ministry information please visit the new website [www.freewebs.com/stceciliayouth](http://www.freewebs.com/stceciliayouth)

### Adult Education

**Scripture Study:** Meets Mondays, 7:30-9:00PM in the Adult/Youth room. Next session: December 10

**Tuesday Morning Bible Study:** Meets in the A/Y Room, 9:30-10:00AM for open discussion and 10-11:00AM for Bible Study. Next session: December 11.

### RCIA

For information on joining the Catholic Church, call John at 232-3514.

### Baptism Class

Our next preparation session is Thursday, February , 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 class or schedule a baptism, please call the parish office at 233-3092.



### Memory Ornaments

The Saint Cecilia 5th Grade Class is selling Memory Tree ornaments to help raise money for the class trip. Ornaments will have a white feather in memory of a deceased individual or a red feather in honor of a living individual. Please be sure to indicate the color of the feather you need. Orders will be taken this weekend. Ornaments will be hung on the Giving Tree until Christmas and can then be picked up. Thank you for your support.

## Communal Reconciliation

Sunday, December 16, 7:30PM

Thursday, December 20, 7:30PM

### Reconciliation at St. Thomas Aquinas

Tuesday, December 11, 7:00PM

### Christmas Mass Times

#### Christmas Eve

4:00PM, (Family Liturgy), 6:30PM and Midnight

Christmas Day, 10:00AM

## MEETINGS/EVENTS

### Food Shelf



### Collection

### 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; ham-burger helper; peanut butter; pasta; spaghetti sauce; canned fruit; cereal; toiletries; laundry detergent; and disposable diapers.

**St. Anne Circle** will meet Tuesday, December 11, 9:00AM in the Social Hall. Members will address Christmas cards for the homebound and retired priests and religious. Visitors are welcome.

**St. Gertrude Circle** will meet Tuesday, December 11, 1:30PM in the St. Clare Room.

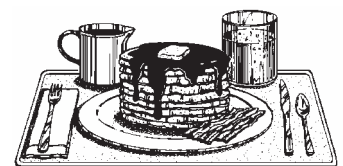
**Catholic Daughters** will meet Thursday, December 13, 6:00PM at the home of Peggy Jacobson, 2732 Thompson Drive, for a Christmas dinner. Please bring an unwrapped gift.

**Fellowship for Parents/Playgroup** meets Wednesdays, 10:00-11:30AM in the A/Y Room. Next session is December 12. Contact Jenni Mortimer at 296-1858 or [starkmortimer@yahoo.com](mailto:starkmortimer@yahoo.com) or Jon Ryan at 232-2075 or [sjryan2@isunet.net](mailto:sjryan2@isunet.net). All are welcome to attend.

### Saint Cecilia Widows, Widowers, and Single Seniors

will meet for brunch at Café Shi, on Sunday, December 16, 11:45AM. Call Pat Rood at 232-3594 to make a reservation.

**Breakfast served  
this Sunday  
after 8:30 &  
10:30AM Masses**



Proceeds go to the Saint Cecilia 5th Grade Class Trip

## School News

Thursday, December 13: 9:00AM, Mass, grades 4/5  
7:00PM, Christmas program at Ames City  
Auditorium (doors open 6:30PM).

Friday, December 14: 2:15PM, Children's Theater presents  
"Snow White.

Christmas break begins December 20; Classes resume, January 3.



**Stewardship:** We must be good stewards of God's gifts to us, receiving them gratefully and cultivating them with care lest we be the ones about whom John the Baptist speaks today: "Every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire."

## OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

### Donations Wanted for Birthright

Birthright of Ames offers free infant and maternity clothing to women and children in need. Right now donations are needed to help us stock our clothing room. Especially needed are winter infant clothing up to size 2T (new or used), and maternity clothes for winter. All donations can be dropped off at the Birthright Office at 108 Hayward in campustown Ames. Please help us provide for those in need and make a difference in a child's life. Your gift is tax deductible; just ask for a tax receipt form.

### English as a Second Language

Classes are held on Thursday, 10:00AM to 11:30AM and 7:00PM to 8:30PM. Volunteers are needed to dialogue with students learning English. Knowledge of other languages is not necessary. All materials are provided. Contact Deacon John McCully at 232-6755 or call the Parish Office to volunteer.

### Supporting Choices in Education

**Would** you be willing to contribute to an organization that guaranteed that at least 90% of your gift went directly to families in need to help them send their children to a Catholic school in the Archdiocese of Dubuque? Well, you can if you contribute to the Our Faith, Our Children, Our Future School Tuition Organization. Not only do you receive the satisfaction of knowing you have helped, but also you receive an Iowa tax credit equal to 65% of your gift. No student should be denied a Catholic education because of the inability to pay. Please consider using this incredible opportunity to make a difference in a child's future. Simply go to [www.arch.pvt.k12.ia.us](http://www.arch.pvt.k12.ia.us), scroll to the bottom of the cover page and click on the link for the School Tuition Organization. Deadline is December 31.

### The Giving Tree

Please remember to bring your wrapped and tagged gift with the contents marked and place it under the tree by **NOON THIS SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9**. Organizations will be picking up their gifts on December 10 in time for their holiday parties. The gifts will be sorted in the Multi-Purpose room until 1:00PM.



**Sing a Noel!!** The Children's Choir for the 4:00PM Family Liturgy on Christmas Eve will rehearse Monday, December 17 and Thursday, December 20, 4:00-4:45PM in the Church. If you would like to join or have any questions, contact Bob Hauser at 233-3092.



**Saint Cecilia Choir** will practice Saturday, December 16, 9:00-10:30AM in the Music Room. The choir is currently preparing for the Advent/Christmas season. New members always welcome. Your time and talent are greatly appreciated. Call Bob at 233-3092 if interested.

### End of Year Giving

Many of our parishioners re-evaluate their giving to Saint Cecilia Parish at year end. For some families, it may be in thanksgiving for the many blessings they received during the year. For others, it is to take advantage of tax incentives. Whatever the case, and because IRS regulations are strict and date sensitive, it is important for you to give your monetary donations on or before December 31. The church can only acknowledge gifts received or postmarked on or before December 31. This is also true of stock donations. Thank you to all those who support Saint Cecilia in time, talent and treasure.



**Parish Cook Books \$10**  
**Pick up several copies for gifts**

Available in the Parish Office

## Bulletin Deadlines

Due to early deadlines and office closings a bulletin will not be printed for December 30. The bulletin for December 23 will cover both weekends.

**Please send items for the bulletin accordingly:**

**Deadline for December 23/30 bulletin— Thursday, December 13**

**Deadline for January 6 bulletin—Thursday, December 20**

### Commission for Community Development & Communication

To meet the challenges and opportunities that come with growth, we have established the Office of Community Development and Communication. This office will work with a community driven commission to establish infrastructure and provide tools that leverage the stewardship of our time, talent, and treasure. At the request of the Board of Education, the Parish Council, and Father Nienhaus, Karen Kerns has been contracted to serve as Director; John Feyerer and Frank Oppold have volunteered to serve as Development and Communication Commission co-chairs. In the coming weeks, you will be hearing more about the activities that will help us to grow and sustain our Catholic community. Please feel free to contact Karen Kerns via e-mail [kpiconi@msn.com](mailto:kpiconi@msn.com) or by phone at 515-231-8658 with ideas, questions, or information that would further our good work.

### Your Financial Stewardship

December 2, contribution	\$ 21,977
Fiscal YTD	\$ 403,131
Budget YTD	\$ 418,991
December 2, Building Fund	\$ 8,776

An estimated average weekly offering of \$18,217 to the general operating fund is required to balance the Saint Cecilia Budget for fiscal year 2007-2008 (\$965,500).



## Second Sunday of Advent

In ancient Israel, before the time of Christ, shofars were used for a variety of events. A shofar is a ram's or goat's horn flattened at the small end and used as a crude trumpet. Blasts from the shofar were used to assemble the elders of the synagogue or the whole congregation, to begin journeys. They were even used in times of war. They would be sounded at the beginning of celebrations, as well. Today, trumpets of silver and gold are used for occasions requiring great fanfare.

He is coming. In today's reading from Matthew, John the Baptist is a sort of shofar, or trumpet, announcing for all to hear the long-awaited coming of the Messiah. There is something wonderful in the fact that Christ's public ministry was not heralded by a band of angels bathed in brilliant white light, but by a man in a simple camel's hair garment who lived off the land. Jesus' road ahead would be difficult, and the announcement of his mission by such a man seems fitting.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches us that the kingdom of heaven belongs to the poor and lowly; in other words, to those who have accepted it with humble hearts (CCC 544). John the Baptist was able to answer his call to his passion, to be the one who was to foretell all that would hear of the coming of Jesus. This Advent season, ask yourself: Is your path straight?

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## Catechism of the Catholic Church

### PART ONE: THE PROFESSION OF FAITH

#### SECTION ONE "I BELIEVE"—"WE BELIEVE"

#### CHAPTER TWO: GOD COMES TO MEET MAN, ARTICLE 2

#### THE TRANSMISSION OF DIVINE REVELATION. III THE INTERPRETATION OF THE HERITAGE OF FAITH

**Growth in understanding the faith paragraph 96-100** What Christ entrusted to the apostles, they in turn handed on by their preaching and writing, under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, to all generations, until Christ returns in Glory.

"Sacred Tradition and Sacred Scripture make up a single sacred deposit of the Word of God", in which, as in a mirror, the pilgrim Church contemplates God, the source of her riches.

"The Church in her doctrine, life, and worship, perpetuates and transmits to every generation all that she herself is, and all that she believes."

Thanks to its supernatural sense of faith, the People of God as a whole never ceases to welcome, to penetrate more deeply, and to live more fully from the gift of divine Revelation.

The task of interpreting the Word of God authentically has been entrusted sole to the Magisterium of the Church, that is, to the Pope and to the bishops in communion with him.

*Give yourself or someone else a special gift of travel this year. Space still available.*

### Seven-Day Pilgrimage to Catholic Poland

May 5– May 12, 2008

*"With an Optional Post Tour to Prague, Czech Republic" (May 12-16, 2008)*

\$2,499 per person based on double occupancy

Six nights at the 4 star Hotel Atrium in Krakow  
Breakfast and Dinner included on a daily basis.

Add \$999 for post tour (based on double occupancy)

For more information or to request a brochure contact:

Fr. Ivan Nienhaus 515-233-3069 or

Sail Aweigh Travel-Ames, Iowa 515-233-5203

### Please remember in your prayers:

**SHARON PORTIS BASCH**, sister of Jerry Portis, who recently passed away. May the Lord grant peace and consolation to her family in their time of need. May she and all who sleep in Christ, find in God's presence, light, happiness and peace.



## Mass Intentions for the Week

### Saturday, December 8

5:00PM: Manuel Joaquin & Niño Gonzales

### Sunday, December 9

8:30AM: Saint Cecilia Parishioners

10:30AM: Paul Dougherty

5:00PM: Ann Wiltgen  
(Misa en Español, Chapel)

### Tuesday, December 11

7:00AM: Jack Gehm

### Wednesday, December 12

7:00AM: Jack Carr

### Thursday, December 13

7:00AM: Charlie Walsh

### Friday, December 14

7:00AM: Wesley Hotka

### Saturday, December 15

5:00PM: Sr. Gene Marie OSF

### Sunday, December 16

8:30AM: Gregory & Mildred Gundru

10:30AM: George Lemanczyk

5:00PM: Saint Cecilia Parishioners  
(Misa en Español, Chapel)

## Prayer Opportunities (Held in the Chapel)

**Scriptural Rosary:** Monday, 7:00AM

**Evening Prayer:** Monday—Friday, 5:00PM

**Eucharistic Adoration:** The chapel is open for adoration.

**Intercessory Prayer Group:** Sunday, 9-10:00PM

**Rosary:** Monday, 7:30PM, and Tuesday-Friday before 7:00AM Mass. The rosary is said for Pro-life the first Monday of each month.

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

**Saturday Morning Prayer:** 7:00AM

**Chaplet of Divine Mercy:** Friday, 3:00PM

(The Chaplet takes about 10 minutes to recite)

## Saint Cecilia Prayer Chain

Send requests to: [stceciliaprayerchain@gmail.com](mailto:stceciliaprayerchain@gmail.com)

## Birthright,

108 Hayward Avenue, 292-8414

Free Pregnancy tests & counseling

## Readings for the Week of December 9, 2007

Sunday: Is 11:1-10/Rom 15:4-9/Mt 3:1-12

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

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

Wednesday: Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47

Thursday: Is 41:13-20/Mt 11:11-15

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

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

Next Sunday: Is 35:1-6a, 10/Jas 5:7-10/Mt 11:2-11