

Saint Cecilia

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

2900 Hoover Avenue • Ames, IA 50010

www.stceciliaparish.org

December 7, 2008

Second Sunday of Advent

Immaculate Conception Monday, December 8

Mass Times:

Sunday, December 7, 4:00PM

Monday, December 8:
7:00AM & 9:00AM

Mass times at St. Thomas Aquinas
Noon & 7:00PM, December 8



Reconciliation

Sunday, December 14: 7:30PM

Communal Reconciliation (with private confessions)

Thursday, December 18: 7:30PM

Communal Reconciliation (with private confessions)

Private Reconciliation

Fr. Nienhaus will hear confessions at Noon and 7:30PM on the following dates: December 15, 16, 17, 18*, 19 & 23.

Confessions will last until all in line have been heard.

* Private confessions at noon only

Communal Reconciliation at St. Thomas Aquinas:

Thursday, December 11, 7:00PM

Tuesday, December 16, 7:00PM

Christmas Mass Times

Christmas Eve

4:00PM, 6:30PM, Midnight

Christmas Day

10:00AM

Bulletin Deadline —Plan Ahead

A bulletin will not be printed for December 28.

Please submit any bulletin articles as follows:

Deadline for December 21 bulletin:

Friday, December 12

Deadline for January 4 bulletin:

Monday, December 22

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

PreSchool & Kindergarten

Meets First & Third Sundays of the Month during the 10:30AM Mass. December dates: 7, 21.

Grades 1-5

Monday classes meet 6:15-7:30PM. December dates: 8, 15

Wednesday classes meet 4:00-5:15PM. December dates: 10, 17

Middle School Youth (Grades 6-8)

Classes meet Wednesdays 7:00-8:15PM, December dates: 10, 17

YIKES! December 10, 7:00-9:00PM

Youth Ministry Grades 9-12

Classes meet Wednesdays 7:00-8:15PM,
December dates: 10, 17

Teen Mass: December 7, 7:00PM

RCIA

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

Baptism Class

Our next preparation session is **Thursday, February 5, 6:30-8:30PM** in the A/Y 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 232-3092.

Adult Education

Scripture Study: Meets Mondays, 7:30-9:00PM in the A/Y room.

Tuesday Morning Bible Study: Meets 10:00-11:00AM in the A/Y Room. Social time begins at 9:30AM.

Adult Education Presentations are held the 1st Wednesday of each month, 7:00PM in the Social Hall. Next Church, Chat & Chow will be held, Wednesday, January 7.

Votive Candles

Starting January 1, 2009, a \$5 donation will be asked for each 6-day plastic votive candle lit in the Church proper. Costs are increasing in every area and this includes the cost of candles. Thank you for your understanding in this matter.

Fr. Nienhaus

MEETINGS/EVENTS

Sanctity of Life will meet Sunday, December 7, 9:30AM in the Sun Room.

St. Gertrude Circle will meet Tuesday, December 9, 11:30AM for lunch at Hy-Vee Lincoln Center.

St. Anne Circle will meet Tuesday, December 9, 9:00AM in the South Social Hall. Members will be addressing Christmas cards.

Catholic Daughters will meet Thursday, December 11, 6:00PM in the A/Y room for the annual Christmas party. Please bring an unwrapped gift.

Saint Cecilia Widows, Widowers & Single Seniors will meet Sunday, December 14, Noon, at the Broiler for dinner. Call Pat Rood at 232-3594 for reservations or information.

Saint Cecilia Choir will rehearse this upcoming Saturday, December 13, 9:00-10:30AM. The choir is preparing music for the Advent/Christmas season. New members are always welcome. If you would like more information, please contact Bob Hauser at the parish office (233-3092) or bhauser@stceciaparish.org.

Fellowship for Parents/Playgroup every Wednesday of the month, 10:00-11:30AM in the A/Y room. Contact Jon Ryan at 232-2075 or sjryan2@isunet.net or Jenni Mortimer at starkmortimer@yahoo.com or 296-1858. All are welcome to attend.



Hanging of the Greens

Sunday December 21, 11:45AM

Come join in the fun. Help decorate the Church with boughs of holly. If you can not participate at 11:45AM you may choose to be part of the clean-up crew starting at approximately 1:45PM. Many hands make light work.

Thanks to All who participated in Saint Cecilia's Christmas Market! Many groups had an opportunity to raise funds for their worthwhile causes at this festive and community-building event. Also, Saint Cecilia Parish made a donation of \$459.61 to Good Neighbor Emergency Assistance from the proceeds of the recycled holiday decorations—thanks to all who donated or purchased the items

Looking for recipe ideas for the Holidays?

Need an inexpensive gift?

Saint Cecilia Parish Cookbook

\$10 or 2/\$15

Available in the Parish Office



SCHOOL NEWS

Monday, December 8: 9:00AM, All School Mass

Wednesday, December 10: Early dismissal at 2:15PM

Tuesday, December 16: 7:00PM, School Christmas concert at Ames City Auditorium

Wednesday, December 17: Early dismissal at 2:15PM

Thursday, December 18: 9:00AM, Paraliturg, Grades 1 & 2

Look for the school link on the parish website: www.stceciliaparish.org



The Giving Tree

Please place your wrapped and tagged gift near the gift boxes in the Narthex no later than **1:00PM, Sunday, December 7**. Thank you for the generous donations.

Alternative Gift Market

You are invited to pick up a shopping list at the display on the bulletin board in the east corridor of the Social Center. Buy the gift of education for a child in Palestine for a teacher on your list or a gift of trees in rural Haiti for an environmentalist. The money you donate in the name of your friends and relatives will be used by non-profit organizations to assist people in crisis overseas as well as the U.S. and the Ames area. You will receive holiday cards to send to those on your gift list with inserts explaining your gift and how it will be used. Local organizations such as GOOD NEIGHBOR EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE and GLOBAL BUILDERS are represented. Contact information is on the list. Cards and inserts will be delivered to your home or can be picked up at the Parish Office. All donations through the purchase of alternative gifts are tax-deductible.

Keep Christ in Christmas Cards

Thanks to all who purchased cards at the Christmas Market last weekend. If you were unable to visit the Christmas Market or need additional cards, they may be purchased throughout the Advent Season by contacting Sly Upah 232-6447 or slyclone@gmail.com. They may also be purchased from the self-serve display in the Social Hall.

Couples * Parents * Families

Want to enrich your family?

Want to stimulate your marriage?

Want to meet new people?

Want to join a small Christian Community?

CFM may be just what you are looking for. The Christian Family Movement is a network of small faith-sharing groups. A typical group consists of 5-7 couples or about a dozen parents meeting once a month for study and conversation. They follow a timely program which focuses on issues that encompass the home, church and community. CFM is for all ages and stages— young, couples, blended and one parent families, middle years couples and empty nesters. To learn more contact Deacon Gary and Kay Aitchison at 296-2966 or gaitchis@iastate.edu.

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."

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

Youth Ministry

Volunteers are needed to help with the many activities on a regular or occasional basis. Please contact Anna Steele, Youth Minister.

Birthright of Ames offers free infant and maternity clothing to women and children in need. Right now donations are needed to help stock the clothing room. New or used winter clothing for infants up to size 2T and winter maternity clothes are especially needed. All donations can be dropped off at the Birthright office at 108 Hayward in campustown. Please help 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. Call 292-8414 to arrange a drop-off time.

Restorative Justice

NEEDED: mentors and Circle of Support and Accountability members!! This invitation meeting will be held in the South Social Hall, Tuesday, December 9, 7:00PM. Contact Deacon Ron Smith at 515-441-0480 for more information.

Recommended Reading

This month's recommended book is *Dare to Be Christ* by Fr. Walter Burghardt, S.J. In this book of his homilies, he challenges us to be followers of Jesus in our lives, full of living hope. The first chapter is about Advent, characterized by the imperative to long for the integrity of living a pure, all-encompassing love for Christ. Let's join with the 2nd graders who are receiving first Eucharist this weekend, in this kind of joyful, attentive preparation for celebrating the birth of Christ. Look for this book on the table in the parish library (St. Clare Room).

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 money on or before December 31. This is especially true of stock donations. Please call the Parish Office, 233-3092, if you have any questions. Thank you to all who support Saint Cecilia in time, talent and treasure.

Your Financial Stewardship

	November	FYTD
Contributions (general)	\$ 98,431	\$ 392,976
Needed to meet expenses	\$ 98,240	\$ 432,258
Contributions (building)	\$ 65,928	\$ 227,728

For your convenience, automatic contributions can be set up or changed by contacting the parish office. Thank you for your generosity to Saint Cecilia Parish.

Catechism of the Catholic Church

PART ONE: THE PROFESSION OF FAITH
SECTION TWO, THE CREEDS

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The first "profession of faith" is made during Baptism. The symbol of faith is first and foremost the *baptismal* creed. Since Baptism is given "in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit," the truths of faith professed during Baptism are articulated in terms of their reference to the three persons of the Holy Trinity.

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And so the Creed is divided into three parts: "the first part speaks of the first divine Person and the wonderful work of creation; the next speaks of the second divine Person and the mystery of his redemption of men; the final part speaks of the third divine Person, the origin and source of our sanctification." These are "the three chapters of our [baptismal] seal."

South Side Parking

Parking on the South side of the building is perpendicular. For safe exit and the protection of all vehicles, please do not parallel park along the edges of the drive.



Good Samaritan
Volunteers

The Good Samaritan Service

provides assistance to parishioners needing help with indoor care, personal services, transportation and outdoor care.

If you or your family is in need of one of these services, please fill out a Good Samaritan Service Card and drop it off in the gold box next to the parish office. Thanks to all who have volunteered to help with this service. Your efforts are truly appreciated.

November Baptisms

Wesley Allan, son of Matt & Julie Graesch

Zachary Steven, son of Matt & Jessica Loecke

Mario Roberto, son of Mario Marin Perlera & Sandra Hernandez

Madeline Marie, daughter of Brent & Donna Moore

Lucas James, son of Brian & Sharon White

ST. THOMAS AQUINAS

St. Thomas Aquinas Separated/Divorced Support Group will gather for dinner at the Café in Somerset, Thursday, December 11, 7:00-8:30PM. Come for a relaxing evening of good food and camaraderie. Please RSVP by Tuesday, December 9, to Jo at jomyerswalker@gmail.com or Carol at 296-2250. Can't attend but would like to be on our e-mail list? Contact Carol at breathe2relax@msn.com.

2nd Sunday of Advent

Admit it-you are already making yourselves crazy, what with decorations and gifts and special meals and travel plans, not to mention sending out the cards and annual letters. Some of you may even be thinking, "I'll be glad when all of this is over!" though I certainly hope not! Think back to those days over 2,000 years ago; under the quiet cover of night's darkness, a young couple set out on a journey. There was nothing of what we've added to this season, only quiet anticipation and prayer as they slowly made their way to an as yet unknown destination.

The Gospel of Mark is the shortest of the four, but is often described as the most striking and descriptive. Today's reading, from the beginning of the book, introduces us to John the Baptist. He is described as a voice of one, crying out in the desert, announcing to everyone who will hear him that the Messiah is coming. Imagine the excitement of those who listened to John; after centuries of waiting, the Christ was coming to baptize with the promised Holy Spirit.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church describes St. John the Baptist as "the Lord's immediate precursor or forerunner, sent to prepare his way" (CCC 523). Indeed, he was the last of the prophets to proclaim the coming of Jesus Christ. Appearing with the characteristics of an Old Testament prophet, this holiest of men had waited all of his life for the moment when he could announce the coming of the Savior. He was patient; he was faithful. During this Advent season, as we remember the promise of a Savior who would save us from our sins, let us pray for patience and faith through the Holy Spirit. Now is the time for peace in our lives and in our hearts.

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Book & Gift Shop

Located in the East Corridor of the Social Center

- Advent wreaths & Candles 20% off
- Christmas Cards (on sale)
- Holy Cards (3 for \$1) to tuck into mailings

All Books in Stock - 30% off

Nativity Figurines 20%

The shop also carries *Every Hundred Years*, a book about the Chicago Cubs 2008 baseball season, by parishioner Rick Brimeyer. Great gift for Cubs fans.

OPEN EACH WEEKEND UNTIL DEC. 21

Saturday: 4-6PM; Sunday: 9:30-Noon

Thursday & Friday: Noon-1:00PM

or Call for appointment (233-3092)

Please Remember in Your Prayers:

RENA WATERBECK sister of Tilda Thompson and **MARY LOU MEE**, sister of Peggy Litchfield, who recently passed away. May the Lord grant peace and consolation to their family in their time of need. May they, and all who sleep in Christ, find in God's presence, light, happiness and peace.

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





Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, December 6

5:00 PM: Edward & Beulah Lukes †

Sunday, December 7

8:30 AM: Mr. & Mrs. Robert Bonifacio & Children in Thanksgiving

10:30 AM: Doug Conley

4:00PM: Rev. Msgr. Bernard Collins † (Holy Day Vigil)

5:00 PM: For an Increase in Vocations

Misa en Español (Chapel)

7:00PM: Saint Cecilia Parishioners (TEEN MASS)

Monday, December 8

7:00AM: Rena Waterbeck †

9:00AM: Rita Schmitz †

Tuesday, December 9

7:00 AM: All the Poor Souls

5:15 PM: Eucharistic Adorers

Wednesday, December 10

7:00 AM: Jack Gehm †

5:15 PM: Junior Finer

Thursday, December 11

7:00 AM: James Kernan †

5:15PM: Clarence & Francis Thole

Friday, December 12

7:00 AM: Jean Pawson

5:15 PM: Michael Rolling Family

Saturday, December 13

5:00 PM: Harry Svec †

Sunday, December 14

8:30 AM: Saint Cecilia Parishioners

10:30 AM: John Conley †

5:00 PM: For an End to Abortion

Misa en Español (Chapel)

Prayer Opportunities

Prayer opportunities held in the Chapel.

Scriptural Rosary Monday 7:00 AM

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

Rosary Monday 7:30 pm*, Tuesday-Friday before 7:00 AM Mass

(*The rosary is said for Pro-life the first Monday of each month.)

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

Chaplet of Divine Mercy Friday 3:00 PM

Liturgy of the Hours Saturday 7:00 AM

Eucharistic Adoration The chapel is open daily.

Keypad access only between 10:00PM & 6:00AM. Call the parish office (233-3092) for access information.

Readings for the Week of December 7, 2008

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

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

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

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

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

Friday: Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a,

10ab/Lk 1:26-38 or 1:39-47

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

Next Sunday: Is 61:1-2a, 10-11/1 Thes 5:16-24/Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

Mass Schedule

Weekend: Saturday 5:00 pm; Sunday 8:30, 10:30 am & 5:00 pm (Misa en Español)

Weekday: Tuesday-Friday 7:00 am & 5:15 pm (Chapel)

Reconciliation

Saturday 3:30-4:30 pm and by appointment.

Parish Office

Hours Monday-Friday 8:00 am-5:00 pm

Phone (515) 233-3092

Fax (515) 233-6423

Rectory (515) 233-9477

Parish Staff

Pastor Father Ivan Nienhaus
nienhaus@stceciliaparish.org

Deacons Gary Aitchison, John McCully,
Ron Smith & Richard Tondra

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

Business Manager..... Jerry Greving
jgreving@stceciliaparish.org

Bookkeeper..... Char VanKerckevoorde
cvankerc@stceciliaparish.org

Administrative Assistant Joan Jones
jjones@stceciliaparish.org

Religious Education

Phone (515) 232-3514

Director of Religious Education John Hayes
jhayes@stceciliaparish.org

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

Secretary Annette Kelch
akelch@stceciliaparish.org

School

Phone (515) 232-5290

Principal Dr. Tom Budnik
tbudnik@stceciliaparish.org

Administrative Assistant Lois Vidimos
lvidimos@stceciliaparish.org

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Parish Registration

If you attend Saint Cecilia Parish and have not registered, please contact the parish office or visit the website and download a registration form at: www.stceciliaparish.org. Completed forms may be dropped in the collection basket, returned in person or by mail.

Parish Hall Rental

Rent our facilities for parties, weddings, birthdays, etc. Contact the Reception Coordinator, Judy Trumpy at 233-3092 (parish office) or jmtrumpy@gmail.com.

www.stceciliaparish.org

Saint Cecilia Catholic Church, 2900 Hoover Avenue, Ames, IA 50010