

Saint Cecilia

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

2900 Hoover Avenue • Ames, IA 50010

www.stceciliaparish.org

December 14, 2008

Third Sunday of Advent

Mass Times

Christmas Eve

4:00PM, (Family Liturgy) 6:30PM, MIDNIGHT
(Caroling begins at 11:30PM)

Christmas Day

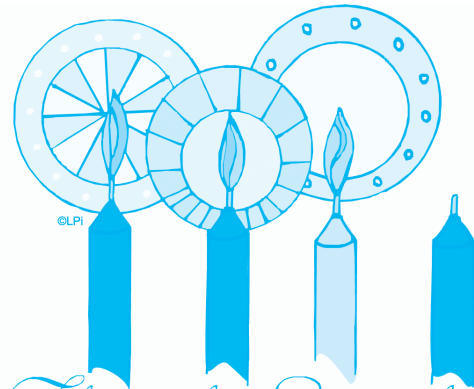
10:00AM

New Year's Eve

4:00PM

New Year's Day

10:00AM



*Third Sunday
of Advent*

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:

Tuesday, December 16, 7:30PM

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:

9:00AM, Monday, December 15

Deadline for January 4 bulletin:

9:00AM Monday, December 22

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

PreSchool & Kindergarten

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

Grades 1-5

Monday classes meet 6:15-7:30PM. December date: 15

Wednesday classes meet 4:00-5:15PM. December date: 17

Middle School Youth (Grades 6-8)

Classes meet Wednesdays 7:00-8:15PM. December date: 17

Youth Ministry Grades 9-12

Classes meet Wednesdays 7:00-8:15PM,

December date: 17

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 233-3092.

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. Scripture study will **NOT** meet on December 23, 30 or January 6.

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.

Youth Ministry Fair

Sunday, January 4, 4:00-7:00PM
Education Center, Multi-purpose Room

The fair will feature booths for every program available for students in grades 6-12. All parishioners are welcome find out more about our programs such as Glory, Theology of the Body, YIKES!, TEC, NCCY, Amore Meal and many more. Raffle for free RE or YM tuition for next year. FREE snow cones, cotton candy, popcorn, plus X-Box, Prayer corner and Mini-Golf for kids.

MEETINGS/EVENTS



EMERGENCY FOOD SHELF

Next Weekend is Our Good Samaritan/Food Shelf Collection Weekend. Suggested food items include baby foods, canned meat products, packaged, shelf-stable main meals, hamburger helper, peanut butter, pasta, spaghetti sauce, cereal, and canned fruit. The following non-food items are needed: laundry detergent, dish soap, disposable diapers, baby wipes, shampoo, paper towels, and Kleenex. Thank you for your continued generous support.

Social Concerns Committee will meet Monday, December 15, 7:00PM in the South Social Hall. All are welcome to attend.

Our Lady's Rosary Makers will meet Tuesday, December 16, 9:30AM at the home of Jayne Misra. Anyone interested in making rosaries may call 233-1393 for information.

St. Anne Circle will meet Tuesday, December 16, 9:00AM in the South Social Hall. Members will be addressing Christmas cards.

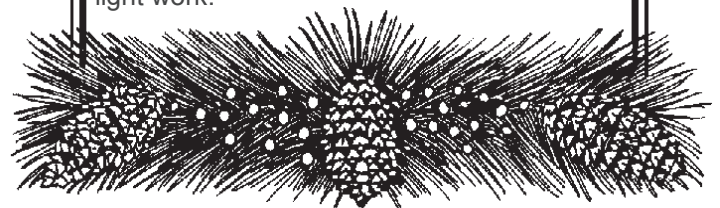
Sixty Plus Group will meet Tuesday, December 16, Noon, in the South Social Hall for a potluck dinner. Please bring your own table service and a dish to share. Bring a *White Elephant* gift for the program.

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. **Christmas Party on December 17.** All are welcome to attend. Fellowship will not meet December 24 or 31.



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.



SCHOOL NEWS

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

Friday, December 19: last day of school before Christmas break.

Classes resume January 5, 2009.

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

Sing A Noel!!!! The Children's Choir for the 4:00PM Family Liturgy on Christmas Eve will rehearse Thursday, December 18, and Tuesday, December 23, 4:00-4:45PM in the Church. If you would like to join in or have any questions, contact Bob Hauser at 233-3092.



Coffee & Donuts served after the 8:30AM & 10:30AM Masses this weekend.

Coffee and donuts will not be served December 21, 28 or January 4.

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.

Looking for recipe ideas for the Holidays?
Need an inexpensive gift?
Saint Cecilia Parish Cookbook
\$10 or 2/\$15
Available in the Parish Office



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

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.

Mark your Calendars:

The 2011 World Youth Day participants will begin hosting First Friday dinners beginning January 9.

Full of Grace Study Series for Women

"Women impregnated with the spirit of the Gospel can do so much to aid humanity in not falling. It is for you to save the peace of the world." This is one of the many focuses in the Full of Grace Study series, which also includes information on several women saints who lived the Gospel and made a difference in their time. If you are interested in discovering femininity and living the spirit of the Gospels, join us and learn how you can make a difference in our time. An informational meeting will be held January 6, 7:00PM, in the St. Clare room. This meeting will introduce you to material covered in the 9 week session to begin in February. If you are interested in joining the study but unable to attend the informational meeting, please contact one of the facilitators: Janine Greenwood (232-1359) Saint Cecilia, Lynn Lunch (233-6057) St. Thomas or Char VanKerckevorde (233-2695) Story/Marshall Cluster for more information. Registration deadline for the study series is January 26.

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.



Year End Giving

Your Financial Stewardship

	Dec 1-Dec. 7	FYTD
Contributions (general)	\$ 28,445	\$ 421,422
Needed to meet expenses	\$ 19,648	\$ 451,906
Contributions (building)	\$ 14,240	\$ 186,827

For your convenience, automatic contributions can be made directly from your bank account on the 1st or 15th of each month. Please contact Jerry Greving, Business Manager for details.

Catechism of the Catholic Church

PART ONE: SECTION TWO

THE PROFESSION OF FAITH - THE CREEDS

191 "These three parts are distinct although connected with one another. According to a comparison often used by the Fathers, we call them *articles*. Indeed, just as in our bodily members there are certain articulations which distinguish and separate them, so too in this profession of faith, the name *articles* has justly and rightly been given to the truths we must believe particularly and distinctly." In accordance with an ancient tradition, already attested to by St. Ambrose, it is also customary to reckon the articles of the Creed as *twelve*, thus symbolizing the fullness of the apostolic faith by the number of the apostles.

192 Through the centuries many professions or symbols of faith have been articulated in response to the need of the different eras: the creeds of the different apostolic and ancient Churches e.g. the *Quicumque*, also called the Athanasian Creed; the professions of faith of certain Councils, such as Toledo, Lateran, Lyons, Trent; or the symbols of certain popes, e.g. the *Fides Damasi* or the *Credo of the People of God* of Paul VI.

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.

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.



Good Samaritan
Volunteers

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

AREA CHURCHES

CEW at Our Lady's Immaculate Heart, Ankeny

Looking for a Meaningful Gift Idea for Christmas? Here's a wonderful suggestion! Ask for or give a Christian Experience Weekend (CEW). The CEW weekend is an adult renewal experience offering participants a better understanding of old and new aspects of their Christian faith. The 2009 weekends will be held January 23-25 for women and February 20-22 for men at Our Lady's Immaculate Heart Church in Ankeny. Brochures are available on the counter beneath the bulletin board in the east corridor of the Social Center and at www.olih.org.cew. If you have questions, call Debbie Landuyt at 515-597-2263.

3rd Sunday of Advent

Many of us struggle with the concept of being outwardly faithful and helping others to understand the warmth of the light of life and fire of the Holy Spirit that fills us. Often, we are fearful of what others will think of us; we don't like to be embarrassed or ridiculed for our beliefs. But what is the worst that could happen? Those who laugh or point fingers in disgust are the very ones we need to reach. We may not immediately see that we've reached them, but at some point that light we enjoy may also shine on them. Truly, it would be worse if we were able to show that light, and yet did nothing.

Today's Gospel reading from John is the story of the questioning of St. John the Baptist by the priests and Levites of Jerusalem. They mocked him, asking if he was the prophet Elijah, or any other prophet for that matter. After all, what right did he have to claim to know something about the coming of the long-awaited Messiah? He was just a man who spent his days among sinners, baptizing them in the waters of the Jordan. Who was he? "I am 'the voice of one crying out in the desert, 'Make straight the way of the Lord'" as Isaiah the prophet said." That's who he was.

John was not afraid to profess who he was or in whose name he gave great glory. We are taught in the Catechism, "The disciple of Christ must not only keep the faith and live on it, but also profess it, confidently bear witness to it, and spread it" (CCC 1816). John might have simply lived his life knowing his belief in God and Jesus Christ would be enough for his salvation, yet he went further. In this season of Advent, challenge yourself to not only live your faith, but to share in its great joy with others.

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Book & Gift Shop

Located in the East Corridor of the Social Center

Gift Ideas: Books, Bibles, Rosaries, Willow Tree, Fontanini, Pie Plates, Picture Frames, Necklaces. Crucifixes, Pyx, Children's Books.

Many Items on Sale

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 an appointment (233-3092)

Please Remember in Your Prayers:

LILLIAN JOHNSON, former parishioner, 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 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)

Tuesday, December 16

7:00 AM: Eleanor Elbert †

5:15 PM: Ron Rasmussen†

Wednesday, December 17

7:00 AM: Steve & Char VanKerckvoorde (Anniversary)

5:15 PM: Karen Andresen †

Thursday, December 18

7:00 AM: Deb Tschopp †

5:15PM: Frank VanKerckvoorde †

Friday, December 19

7:00 AM: Robert Christian

5:15 PM: Rita Bielefeldt †

Saturday, December 20

5:00 PM: Fran Livingston †

Sunday, December 21

8:30 AM: Carl & Cleone Pelzer†

10:30 AM: George Lemanczyk †

5:00 PM: Saint Cecilia Parishioners
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.

Prayer Chain

Send requests to Marge Sutter at 233-2622 or
stceciliaprayerchain@gmail.com.

Readings for the Week of December 14, 2008

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

Monday: Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a/Mt 21:23-27

Tuesday: Zep 3:1-2, 9-13/Mt 21:28-32

Wednesday: Gn 49:2, 8-10/Mt 1:1-17

Thursday: Jer 23:5-8/Mt 1:18-25

Friday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Lk 1:5-25

Saturday: Is 7:10-14/Lk 1:26-38

Next Sunday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Rom 16:25-27/Lk 1:26-38

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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 VanKerckvoorde
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
asteele@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

Birthright Free pregnancy tests & counseling.

Confidential. 108 Hayward, 292-8414

www.birthright.org

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