

# Saint Cecilia

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

2900 Hoover Avenue • Ames, IA 50010

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

December 13, 2009

Third Sunday of Advent

## Advent

It can be difficult to prepare our lives for Christ amidst the busy preparations of a material Christmas.

The four weeks before Christmas are a time to prepare our families to celebrate Christ's birth:

To prepare our minds to accept that God's Son became a baby and lived and died for us;

to prepare our hearts to accept God's forgiveness, and to change our ways;

to prepare our souls to receive God's healing grace through the celebration of Mass;

to take part in not only the work of preparation but also the hope and joy in the midst of our work.



### Christmas Mass Times

**Christmas Eve**

4:00PM, 6:30PM, Midnight

**Christmas Day**

10AM

### Holy Mary, Mother of God

**December 31**

4PM

**January 1**

10AM

### Communal Reconciliation

Tuesday, December 15: 7PM

Communal Reconciliation

(with private confessions)

### Private Reconciliation

Saturday, December 12 & 19,

3-4:30PM

Monday, December 21, 6:30-7:30 PM

Tuesday, December 22, 11 AM-12 Noon

Wednesday, December 23,

11AM - 12 Noon

5-6:00PM

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

### Religious Education & Youth Ministry Registration

Registration for Religious Education and Youth Ministry programs is always available in the Religious Education Office 8:00AM-4:00PM Monday—Friday.

**LIFE TEEN welcomes all High Schoolers  
Meets from 6:30-9PM each Sunday!**

**December 13:** Big Feet: *Charity & Justice*  
**December 20:** Winter Semester Kick-off: *Social*  
[www.saintcecilielifeteen.net](http://www.saintcecilielifeteen.net)

*Discussion Questions for Families will be available each week at  
<http://www.saintcecilielifeteen.net/parents>*

### Ninth Grade Confirmation Calendar:

**January 6:** The Plan/God's Plan of Salvation

### Tenth Grade Confirmation Calendar:

**December 16:** Theology of the Body/*Chastity & Purity*  
**January 6:** Truth Be Told/*Making Moral Decisions*

**\*\*MIDDLE SCHOOL R.E. meets from 7 to 8:30PM  
on the 1st, 3rd, & 4th Wednesdays!!\*\***

**December 16:** Reconciliation

### YIKES:

**January 13:** Casino Night at Saint Cecilia

### RCIA

Call John Hayes for information about joining the Catholic Church at 232-3514.

### Baptism Class

Our next preparation session is **February 4, 2010**, 6:30-8:00PM in the A/Y Room. **All parents seeking baptism for their child are expected to attend a preparation session even though they may have attended previously.** 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 North Social Hall.

**Bible Study in Spanish:** Meets Mondays, 6:00-7:00PM in the North Social Hall.

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

## OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

### YIKES Leaders Needed!!

Adult leaders are needed to help with our monthly, middle school youth groups. Our only qualifications: you must love Christ & must love middle schoolers!!

**Needed: Tutors for English as a Second Language (ESL)** No experience needed. Thursday 10:00-11:30 & 7:00-8:30. For additional information call Palmer Holden, Morning Coordinator -515-233-3707 or Karl Gwiasda, Evening Coordinator- 515-232-7582.

**Office Help Needed:** We are seeking volunteers to work on an as-needed basis to put bulletin inserts (fliers) into the parish bulletin. This work would usually be done on Friday mornings. Please call Kathy at the parish office (233-3092) if you can help.

★ Thank You! ★  
THANK YOU! ★

The family of Lillian Knutson thanks everyone who helped with her funeral. Anne Schmitt and Brian Snider from Stevens Memorial Chapel were so compassionate and respectful of our wishes. Jacque Zbaracki and Julie Haas from the Bereavement Committee were very helpful in guiding us through the final steps. Father Secora put the family at ease and did a wonderful job of weaving parts of Lillian's life into his homily such that everyone could smile as they remembered the loving person she was. Thanks also to acolytes Jack Baumhover and Quinton Nespor; Julie Bovenmyer for being lector; Bob Hauser and Jill Brown for the lovely music; and all the people who baked and served cookies prior to the funeral Mass. Your hospitality and willingness to serve others help make St. Cecilia such a remarkable parish family. Thank you.

### Hanging of the Greens



### Hanging of the Greens

Sunday, December 20, 11:45AM  
Come join in the fun! Help decorate the Church for the Christmas season. If you cannot participate at 11:45, you may choose to be part of the clean-up crew starting at approximately 1:15PM.

**BULLETIN DEADLINES:** Our printer has changed the deadlines for bulletins due to the Christmas holidays. The deadline for the **Jan. 2/3 bulletin is December 18.** Please submit items as soon as possible; we will keep them on file. Our regular schedule, with deadline for items on Monday at noon, will resume after the January 2/3 bulletin. Thank you for your cooperation.

## SCHOOL NEWS

### School Calendar:

#### Week of Dec 13-19

Monday 12-14: 7PM Christmas Concert at Ames City Auditorium  
Wed, 12-14: 2:15 PM Early Dismissal  
Thurs, 12-17: 9AM grades 1&2 Para-Liturgy  
Christmas Break: Mon. 12-21-09 through Sun, 1-3-2010

#### Week of Dec. 20-Jan.2

Christmas Break is Monday, 12-21-09 through Sunday, 01-03-10.  
School Resumes on Monday, 01-04-10.  
May you and your family have a blessed Christmas and Happy New Year!

### Chair Donated to Kindergarten Class

The family of Anne Marie Best has donated a handmade, Amish chair to Saint Cecilia School in honor of Mrs. Best. All members of the Best family have attended Saint Cecilia School over the years and they donated the chair because of Anne Marie's love of reading to her children when they were young. The chair will be used in Mrs. Stowell's kindergarten classroom.

### Scrip for the Holidays

There is only one Monday left to order scrip for your holiday shopping and gift giving. We will order scrip on Monday, Dec. 14. (Next order date after Dec. 14th will be Monday, January 4.) Save time and gas by ordering scrip gift cards through Saint Cecilia School and help raise needed funds for all the Saint Cecilia education programs. Order forms are in the narthex, school office, parish office and on the school website. Just drop off (or call in) your order to the school or parish office by 9:00AM Monday, and your order will be ready to pick up by 9:00 am Friday. For more information about scrip visit the school website or contact Connie Vaclav (232-8343, [vaclav@iastate.edu](mailto:vaclav@iastate.edu), [scrip@stceciliaschoolames.org](mailto:scrip@stceciliaschoolames.org)). Thank you to all who support Saint Cecilia education by using scrip!

### Want to Help Thousands of Families While Saving Money?

Would you be willing to assist a current or potential Catholic school student with their educational expenses, while significantly reducing your 2008 Iowa income taxes? If you file an Iowa state income tax return, you can contribute to the *Our Faith, Our Children, Our Future School Tuition Organization* and receive a 65% tax credit. That means for every \$100 you donate, you receive an Iowa income tax credit of \$65, plus the entire amount of the gift is eligible for federal deductibility. 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. Visit [www.OurFaithSTO.org](http://www.OurFaithSTO.org) or call 563-556-2580, ext. 256, for more information or to make your contribution. Make a difference for you and the families who wish a Catholic education for their children.

**The Christmas Family Liturgy Choir** will sing at the 4:00PM Mass on Christmas Eve. The choir practices on Thursday, Dec. 17 and Tuesday, Dec. 22 from 4:00-4:45PM in the Church. Any questions, contact Bob Hauser at 233-3092.

## MEETINGS & EVENTS

**Saint Cecilia Rosary Makers** will meet at Jayne Misra's home on Tuesday, December 15 at 9:30AM. Anyone wishing to make rosaries, please call 233-1393.

**Fellowship For Parents/Playgroup** meets every Wednesday from 10:00-11:30AM in the **South Social Hall**. Contact Jon Ryan at [sjryan2@isunet.net](mailto:sjryan2@isunet.net) or 232-2075 or Jenni Mortimer at [starkmortimer@yahoo.com](mailto:starkmortimer@yahoo.com) or 296-1858. All are welcome to attend.

### Interfaith Dialogue Time Again

The Saint Cecilia Interfaith dialogue will be Sunday, December 13 from 2-4PM at Saint Cecilia's. Discussion of holiday traditions will be on the menu. For further information contact Sue Stanton at: [merton420@hotmail.com](mailto:merton420@hotmail.com)

### Next Weekend is our Good Samaritan Fund/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.

The **Christian Family Movement** has been a presence in the Ames community for 50 years. On January 16, Ames CFM will celebrate its 50th Anniversary. If you are a member of CFM, have ever been a member, or are a friend of CFM, you are invited to attend. Invitations will be mailed shortly after Christmas. If you wish to attend and do not receive an invitation, please contact Carolyn & David Thogerson at 232-4209.



*Did you know: CFM was born in 1949 in Chicago? The first CFM group in Ames formed in 1959. CFM is now active in more than 40 countries. CFM is a small faith-sharing community that strengthens marriages, enriches families, builds leaders, increases spirituality and develops community.*



### Eucharistic Adoration Anniversary

This past week was the 13th anniversary of the scheduled Eucharistic Adoration at St. Cecilia's. We began at 7AM, December 9, 1999. We are thankful to all those who have spent hours in the chapel as scheduled adorers, those who have made drop-in visits, and all who have supported Eucharistic Adoration in any way. We are also grateful to the original divisional leaders who worked so hard to get things started—Trudi Nichols, Mary Breidinger, Merri Britz, Bernice Carter, and Arlene Konrad. Thanks be to God!

**Needed: Tutors for English as a Second Language (ESL)** No experience needed. Thursday 10:00-11:30 & 7:00-8:30. For additional information call Palmer Holden, Morning Coordinator -515-233-3707 or Karl Gwiasda, Evening Coordinator - 515-232-7582.

**Office Help Needed:** We are seeking volunteers to work on an as-needed basis to put bulletin inserts (fliers) into the parish bulletin. This work would usually be done on Friday mornings. Please call Kathy at the parish office (233-3092) if you can help.



# Catechism of the Catholic Church

## PART ONE: SECTION TWO

### CHAPTER ONE - I BELIEVE IN GOD THE FATHER

#### Article 1— I Believe in God the Father, Creator of Heaven & Earth

##### Paragraph 4. The Creator

#### IV. The Mystery of Creation

*God Creates "out of nothing"*

298

Since God could create everything out of nothing, he can also, through the Holy Spirit, give spiritual life to sinners by creating a pure heart in them and bodily life to the dead through the Resurrection. God "gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist." And since God was able to make light shine in darkness by his Word, he can also give the light of faith to those who do not yet know him.

## COMMUNITY

### Choral Concert

The Ames Choral Society will present its holiday concert, "For Unto Us A Child Is Born", on Sunday, Dec. 13 at 3:00PM at St. Andrew's Lutheran Church, 209 Colorado Ave, Ames. The performance will feature songs by Mendelssohn and Handel's Messiah, Part I, with a chamber orchestra. A reception will follow the concert. Tickets are \$10 at the door or in advance at Gallery 319 or the Octagon Gift Shop in downtown Ames. Children under 12 are free. For info check [www.ameschoral.org](http://www.ameschoral.org) or call 515-232-5545.

### The Greatest Gift

"And the greatest gift is love." Husbands and wives, the most precious gift you give to each other is your love. Why not renew your love with the experience of a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend? It's a perfect Christmas gift. The next weekend is in Cedar Falls, IA February 12-14, 2010. To register or for more information contact Roger and Marsha Luensmann at 563-927-4352. Please register six weeks in advance. Visit <http://www.iowa-wme.org> for more information.

**Birthright of Ames** offers free infant and maternity clothing to women and children in need. Donations are needed to help us stock our clothing room. We especially need 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 campus-town 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.

**Please remember to pick up the photos of your loved ones at the parish office.**

**Please Remember in Your Prayers:**  
**Alvera Irlbeck**, mother of Lois Whitfield.

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.



**Stewardship:** Today's Gospel provides a blueprint for good stewardship: "Let the man who has two coats give to him who has none. The man who has food should do the same."

### 3rd Sunday of Advent

Pretty practical advice from John the Baptist in this week's Gospel: if you have two cloaks, share one; if you have food, do the same; be honest, don't cheat; don't lie about others.

Practical advice is the kind of thing elders would dole out to children and grandchildren. Be polite; wait your turn; say "thank you"; wash your hands before meals; take a walk; have regular check-ups. You know the routine.

While the simple practical advice of our elders was meant to situate us in a wholesome life that was respectful of self and others, the practical advice of John the Baptist has a great end in mind. The actions he promotes are directed toward the coming kingdom of God. John's vision takes in the whole world and extends beyond his moment in time. He is foreseeing a day when God's justice will reign supreme. He is asking his listeners to begin now to make that justice happen.

The kind things we do at this time of year are to be more than simple acts of charity. Donating food, bringing gifts for the poor, contributing to agencies that help those in need are all good things. But if we see our actions for what they can be-giving from what has been given to us to the many who have less-we then begin to understand our place in the kingdom of God. If we have more than someone else, it is always incumbent on us to share. That is the practical advice that John lays out for his listeners as preparation for the coming of the Messiah. And just to make it clear, John adds that this Messiah is coming with his winnowing fan to separate wheat from chaff. God's justice will not be denied.

©2009 Liturgical Publications Inc

**Looking for a meaningful gift idea for Christmas?** Ask for or give a Christian Experience Weekend (CEW). The CEW is an adult renewal experience offering participants a better understanding of old and new aspects of their Christian faith. The 2010 weekends will be held January 15-17 for women and January 29-31 for men at Our Lady's Immaculate Heart in Ankeny. Brochures are available at St. Cecilia and at [www.olih.org/cew](http://www.olih.org/cew). If you have questions, call Debbie Landuyt at 597-2263.

### Your Financial Stewardship

	Nov.	FYTD
Contributions (general)	\$ 36,392	\$441,357
Needed to meet expenses	\$ 19,687	\$452,801
Contributions (building)	\$ 3,866	\$ 34,234

Contact Business Manager, Jerry Greving, for more detailed information or to set up the convenience of automatic withdrawal from your account.

### End of the 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 receive 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.



# Mass Intentions for the Week

## Saturday, December 12

5:00PM: Parishioners of Saint Cecilia

## Sunday, December 13

8:30AM: Parishioners of Saint Cecilia

10:30AM: Edward & Paul Shevokast†

5:00PM: Ethel & Pete Griset†

Misa en Español (Chapel)

## Tuesday, December 15

7:00AM: Bill Naughton

5:15PM: Elsie & Albert White

## Wednesday, December 16

7:00AM: Helen Neppel

5:15PM: James F. (Bud) Kearns

## Thursday, December 17

7:00AM: Albert Walsh† & Eleanor Walsh

5:15PM: Willie & Susan Tsironis

## Friday, December 18

7:00AM: Jack Carr†

5:15PM: George Simpson†

## Saturday, December 19

5:00PM: Bob & Mary Myerst†

## Sunday, December 20

8:30AM: Jim Kearney†

10:30AM: Parishioners of Saint Cecilia

5:00PM: Henry Adamst†

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 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 or to sign up for an adoration hour.

## Prayer Chain

Send requests to Marge Sutter at 233-2622 or

[stceciliapraychain@gmail.com](mailto:stceciliapraychain@gmail.com).

## Readings for the Week of December 13, 2009

Sunday: Zep 3:14-18a/Phil 4:4-7/Lk 3:10-18

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

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

Wednesday: Is 45:6b-8, 18, 21b-25/Lk 7:18b-23

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

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

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

Next Sunday: Mi 5:1-4a/Heb 10:5-10/Lk 1:39-45

## Mass Schedule

**Weekend:** Saturday 5:00 PM; Sunday 8:30, 10:30 AM & 5:00 PM (Misa en Español)

**Weekday:** Tuesday-Friday 7:00AM & 5:15 PM (Chapel)

## Reconciliation

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

## Parish Office

Hours.....Monday-Friday 8:00 AM-4:30 PM

Phone..... (515) 233-3092

Fax ..... (515) 233-6423

Rectory ..... (515) 233-9477

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

## Parish Staff

**Pastor** ..... Father James Secora  
jsecora@stceciliaparish.org

**Deacons** ..... Gary Aitchison, Alan Christy  
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** ..... Kathy Best  
kbest@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** ..... Patty Streit  
pstreit@stceciliaparish.org

## School

Phone ..... (515) 232-5290

**Principal** ..... Dr. Tom Budnik  
tbudnik@stceciliaschoolames.org

**Administrative Assistant** ..... Lois Vidimos  
lvidimos@stceciliaschoolames.org

## Birthright

Free pregnancy tests & counseling. Confidential.

108 Hayward Ave. • 292-8414 • [www.birthright.org](http://www.birthright.org)

## I AM INTERESTED IN BECOMING A MEMBER OF SAINT CECILIA PARISH

Name and Address the way you would like it to appear.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Please return via mail or drop in collection basket.  
Someone will contact you. You will receive a registration  
packet with additional information.

Welcome to Saint Cecilia Parish.