

December 9, 2012 | Second Sunday of Advent



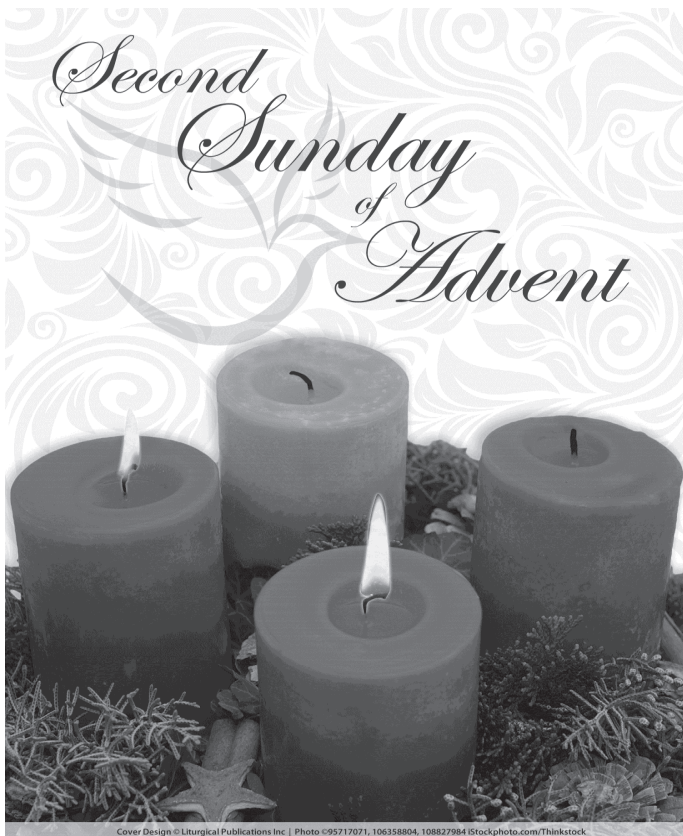
# Saint Cecilia

## CATHOLIC CHURCH

2900 Hoover Avenue • Ames, IA 50010

Fr. James L. Secora, Pastor

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



**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.

### Christmas Eve Masses

Monday, December 24  
4:00PM (Family Liturgy), 6:30PM, and  
10:00PM (*caroling beginning at 9:30PM*)  
(*Incense will be used at the 10PM Mass.*)

### Christmas Day Mass

Tuesday, December 25 at 10:00AM

### Holy Mary, Mother of God

Monday, December 31 at 5PM  
Tuesday, January 1 at 10AM  
Sunday, January 1 at 8:30AM and 10:30AM

### Advent Communal Reconciliation Services

Monday, December 10 at 7PM (St. Thomas Aquinas)  
Thursday, December 20 at 7PM (St. Cecilia)

### Private Reconciliation Times

Saturdays, December 15 & 22 from 3:15-4:30PM  
Monday, December 17, from 6:30PM-7:30PM  
Wednesday, December 19, from 11AM-12PM

## FAITH FORMATION

### Office Hours:

Monday, Tuesday & Thursday 8:30AM–5:00PM  
 Wednesday 8:30 AM–7:00PM  
 Friday–8:30AM–3:00PM

### EARLY CHILDHOOD & ELEMENTARY FAITH FORMATION SESSIONS

#### Week of December 9 – 15

#### St. Cecilia–Ames

Dec. 9–Sunday Sessions–10:30–11:30AM  
 Preschool, Kindergarten & 1st grade–Will meet

Dec. 10–Monday Sessions–6:15–7:30PM  
 Grades 2–8–Will Meet

Dec. 12–Wednesday Sessions–4:00–5:15PM  
 Grades 1–5–Will Meet

Dec. 12–Wednesday Sessions–7:00–8:15PM  
 Grades 6–8–Will Meet

#### St. Cecilia–Jewel

Dec. 12– Grades pre-k through 10th grade will meet

#### A LOOK AHEAD!

Dec. 19–6:45PM Jewell Christmas program & Chili Supper

#### CHRISTMAS FAMILY LITURGY–SIGN-UP

Please plan to participate in this year’s Christmas Eve Family Liturgy. This liturgy takes place on Monday, December 24 at 4pm. There are many roles to be filled in the play, liturgy, and music. This is a wonderful celebration and we hope to have many families (adults-teens-children) involved. This year, we plan to do all sign-up online. Please follow this link to sign-up:  
<http://stcames.org/christmas-family-liturgy-sign-up/>

#### ADULT FAITH FORMATION

#### Alpha for Catholics

Alpha has energized my faith.

**Matt Muffett**

I needed something to continue my faith journey and Alpha forced me to set aside time to think about my faith.

**Tim Ferree**

This program was “awesome.” I am growing and now have a spiritual hunger that I did not have before. I have grown and this program was the best 2 hours and 15 minutes of my week.

**Rita Lowe**

I left the retreat day feeling refreshed and renewed. I feel like I am on the road to do what I should have been doing all my life. I was overwhelmed by the experience.

**Kathie Petrusis**

## YOUTH MINISTRY



Next EDGE: WinterJam

In January, EDGE will attend a Christian Rock Concert at Wells Fargo in Des Moines!

We will announce details after Christmas break.



**December 9:** Surprise Life Night

Next week is our annual Yule Ball, a Christmas party for all! Formal attire requested or contact “StCecilia LifeTeen” on Facebook to receive a character.

#### *First Life Teen after Christmas: January 6*

Brother’s Keeper: A Life Night on Solidarity and the Common Good

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#### *Sacrament of Confirmation*

**Please remember to attend your weekly  
 Faith Formation program.**

**Next Class: January 13**

9<sup>th</sup> Grade: 3-5PM and 10 Grade: 7-9PM

#### **10<sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation:**

Weekend Retreat: January 18-20, 2013

Day of Reflection & Rite of Covenant with Sponsors: January 27

***Want to help with the 2013 Confirmation Retreat?***

*Contact Anna by January 1.*

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#### Trips & Conferences

Amore Meal: February 16<sup>th</sup>

Begin booking reservations before the holidays!

Upcoming trip meetings & fundraisers will be announced soon.

Visit our website for up to date information on events

[www.stcames.org/home/youth-ministry](http://www.stcames.org/home/youth-ministry)

#### **ADULT BIBLE STUDY**

Mon., 6-7PM (Spanish) in St. Louis Room–  
 Evangelio según San Juan

Mon., 7:30-9PM in the St. Louis Room –  
 Gospel according to John

Tues., 9:45-11AM in the St. Louis Room –Discuss Readings for  
 upcoming Weekend. Social time begins at 9:30AM



**THE SEASON OF ADVENT:** Does your heart ache with desire when you hear the words, “O Come, O Come Emmanuel? Advent is the season of longing for the coming of our LORD: in our hearts, in the celebration of his birth, and in the darkness, and the fulfillment of the promise.

*When the Church celebrates the liturgy of advent each year, she makes present this ancient expectancy for the Messiah, for by sharing in the long preparation for the Savior’s first coming, the faithful renew their advent desire for his second coming. By celebrating the precursor’s birth and martyrdom, the Church unites herself to his first desire: “He must increase, but I must decrease” (CCC 524).*

The nation of Israel longed for the coming of a Messiah; the entire world groaned for the coming Savior. We are blessed to participate in this longing each advent as we gather around the table/altar, light a candle, and sing, “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel.” Our Souls cry out, “Come, LORD Jesus, Come!!!”

**The celebration of the season of Advent is a great reason to be Catholic!**

Check out the Archdiocese of Dubuque *Year of Faith* Website for resources and ideas. Click on the four featured areas, where content is added on a regular basis: Witness to Faith, Daily Prayer, Weekly Minute with the Catechism, and Top Ten Reasons to Be a Catholic.

<http://www.arch.pvt.k12.ia.us/yofF/index.html>

Please “Like” our Year of Faith facebook site and join the conversation!

<http://www.facebook.com/DBQArchYofE>

Don’t miss Archbishop Hanus’ Witness Talk from the November 3rd Adult Catholic Conference on the Archdiocesan Website homepage.

<http://www.arch.pvt.k12.ia.us/home.html>

**Start discussing your reasons to be Catholic: Why are you Catholic? What, in particular, do you love about the Catholic faith?**

## SCHOOL NEWS

- Tues., Dec. 11:** 7PM Christmas Concert at Ames City Auditorium
- Wed., Dec. 12:** 9AM All School Mass & 2:15PM Early Dismissal
- Wed., Dec. 19:** 9AM All School Mass & 2:15PM Early Dismissal
- Fri., Dec. 21:** 9AM Stations of the Nativity by 5th Graders (Church) & 1:30PM Early Dismissal
- Dec. 22, 2012 through Jan. 2, 2013:** Christmas Break-No School or Preschool
- Wed., Jan. 3:** School and Preschool Classes Resume

## SCRIP NEWS—SCRIP IS NOW ONLINE!

Thank you for supporting the St. Cecilia education programs by purchasing scrip. We will continue selling scrip after all masses 1x per month. Look for us the 1st full weekend of every month unless that weekend falls on a holiday or holy day. In that case, we will be there the following weekend. Contact Shannon Schroeder or Bev Williams at [scrip@stceciliaschoolames.org](mailto:scrip@stceciliaschoolames.org).

## BAPTISM PREPARATION

All parents seeking baptism for their child are expected to attend a preparation session even though they may have attended previously. Please call 233-3092 for registration.

Godparents are also expected to attend.

**Next session is February, 2012 at 6:30PM**

**in the St. Louis Room.**

**\*\* Note: Sessions are normally scheduled on the second Thursday of the even numbered months.\*\***

## Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

**(RCIA)**

John the Baptist calls to us: Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths.”

John’s proclamation is urgent, full of joy and excitement, as well as concern about readiness to face the glory of God. What we are really preparing for is the coming of the Lord’s justice, wholeness, and right relationship with God. **How are you preparing? Looking for help? Come and See!**

If you are an adult or know an adult or child over the age of 7 interested in becoming a Catholic and celebrating Baptism or Confirmation and First Eucharist with this community, contact Jo Anne Dalhoff at [RCIA@stceciliaparish.org](mailto:RCIA@stceciliaparish.org) or call the parish office at 515-233-3092.

*Parishioners are also needed to support this ministry.*

### Christmas Eve. Choir Rehearsals for

**4PM Family Liturgy Mass**

December 18 @ 4PM in the Church

December 20 @ 4PM in the Church



### Christmas Eve. Choir Rehearsals for 10PM Mass

December 13 @ 7PM in Room 530

December 22 @ 9-10:30AM in Room 530

The St. Cecilia Social Justice Committee and Good Neighbor Emergency Assistance would like to thank parishioners Ben Kellen (Hickory Construction) and Jerry Ross, Dave Stark (of Hy-Vee West Pharmacy), and the St. Cecilia staff & Volunteers for their donations of time and supplies to *Coins 4 Kids*, which is an Advent project being carried out by the students of St. Cecilia School and the Pre-School-8th Grade Faith Formation classes. The project is raising awareness and funds for Good Neighbor [www.gnea.org](http://www.gnea.org).

**Give to those who have given a lifetime.** Senior Catholic sisters, brothers and religious order priests worked for many years for little, if any, pay. Their sacrifices now leave many religious communities without adequate savings for retirement. Your gift to today’s second collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious helps to provide prescription medications, nursing care, and more for thousands of elderly religious. Please be generous.

*Eucharistic Adoration Committee will serve coffee and donuts after both Sunday Masses this weekend.*

*Next weekend, the Melinda Luzbetak Family will serve after the 8:30AM Mass and CFM will serve after the 10:30AM Mass.*





## CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

To view the Catholic Catechism this week go to  
[www.usccb.org/catechism/text/](http://www.usccb.org/catechism/text/)

### MEETINGS & EVENTS

**St. Anne's Circle** will meet Tues., Dec. 11 at 9:30AM in the South Social Hall.

**The St. Cecilia Widows, Widowers, and Single Seniors** group will meet on Sun., Dec. 16 at noon at Applebees. Call Pat Rood at 232-3594 for reservations or information.

**Sunday Afternoon Gathering:** Join us for an afternoon of cards (any kind), board games or just conversation next Sun. Dec. 16, from 2-4PM in the St. Louis Room (entry in back near chapel door).



**Next Weekend is our Good Samaritan Fund/ Food Shelf Collection weekend.** Suggested

donations include canned vegetables and fruit, peanut butter, tuna, canned meat, baby food, packaged shelf-stable main meals, pasta, spaghetti sauce and cereal. Also, non-food items such as laundry detergent, dish soap, disposable diapers, baby wipes, paper towels, Kleenex and toilet paper.

**The Catholic Daughters of the Americas**, Court Madonna 858, invites all Catholic women of St. Cecilia, St. Thomas, St. Patrick, and Sts. Peter and Paul Parishes to their meeting Dec. 13 in the South Social Hall of St. Cecilia's. Dinner is at 6:15. We will have a short meeting followed by a Christmas Sing-Along with Peggy Murdock, Violin, and Theodore Murdock, Cello. Please bring a baby item for the Gabriel Project. Guests, please notify Regent Sharon Jenkins (233-2570) if you plan to attend the meal.

### PRACTICE SESSIONS IN CONVERSATIONAL ENGLISH

Meet at St. Cecilia's Catholic Church at 10-11:30AM & 7-8:30PM on Thur. Typically, each tutor works with 1-3 learners. Contact Lloyd Anderson (296-1002) for information about the morning classes or Karl Gwiasda (232-7582) about the evening classes.

### WE NEED YOU!!

We are looking for three to four couples to prayerfully consider stepping up and helping out the future of St. Cecilia School and RE programs by volunteering your time and talent. Every year since 2006 we have had three or four St. Cecilia couples work together, as a team, to coordinate and plan the annual fundraiser – the St. Cecilia Gala. This new team is for the 2014 Gala. Please send an email to the Principals [principal@stceciliaschoolames.org](mailto:principal@stceciliaschoolames.org) and we will have someone from the current Gala team visit with you soon. Thanks!!

**End of Year Giving**—Many of our parishioners re-evaluate their giving to St. 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 Dec. 31. This is especially true of stock donations. Please call the Parish Office at 233-3092.

**STEWARDSHIP:** Good stewards believe that God, who has begun this good work with them, will carry it through to completion. In words and deeds, they can sing with the psalmist, “The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy!”



### 2nd Sunday of Advent

Every few years, Congress wrangles for months to enact a transportation bill. The latest version, signed into law on July 6, 2012, provides \$120 billion through fiscal 2014. In addition to providing funding for thousands of projects throughout the country, the law also ensures that nearly three million workers will remain on the job constructing and repairing the nation's roads, rails, and mass transit. At the time that the previous law was expiring (fiscal 2009) the American Society of Civil Engineers estimated that the country actually needed to spend about \$1.3 trillion on items covered in the transportation bill (plus another \$900 billion for other infrastructure needs) over five years. Clearly filling in valleys and making low the mountains and hills is not an inexpensive proposition.

John the Baptist quotes the prophet Isaiah in today's Gospel. Isaiah's prophecy is based on the kind of roadwork that took place in the ancient world. Before a conquering general or king would arrive, the way was cleared before him. A rough road was made smooth (to allow for a rapid advance); a crooked, winding road opened up and made straight (to prevent an ambush). Isaiah's prophecy came near the end of the Babylonian Exile, when it was perceived that the LORD would once again take possession of the Temple Mount in Jerusalem. Luke uses the Isaiah prophecy not to portray John the Baptist as some kind of civil engineer, but rather to indicate that there is work and preparation involved in welcoming the LORD. We'll hear more about that next week.

The cost of repairing and upgrading the nation's infrastructure is enormous, maybe more that we can afford. The cost of following Christ is also great. But the payment for that doesn't so much come out of our wallets, as out of our hearts. With just a little over two weeks to go before Christmas, what are you doing to make it easier for the Lord to enter your heart?

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**Giving Tree:** Thank you to everyone who picked up a gift tag for the “Giving Tree.” Please return your wrapped and tagged gift to the collection boxes in the Narthex by NOON this SUN., DEC. 9, so the organizations can pick them up in time for their holiday parties. **FOR SECURITY REASONS, PLEASE DO NOT LEAVE THE GIFTS IN THE NARTHEX DURING UNATTENDED TIMES.**



**Informed Choices of Ames**, a local Christian crisis pregnancy center, is in need of pregnant women who would be willing to be models by coming in to get a free ultrasound during the week of Dec. 10-14 from 9AM-5PM. We must have 50 models to become credentialed and be able to begin doing ultrasounds on our clients. Please call Informed Choices at 232-8000 to schedule an appointment.

### Holiday Special: Now on Sale

\$25 for the Archdiocese 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Book.  
Wonderful stocking stuffer  
Available in the parish office.

## PASTORAL COUNCIL

Terry Herrman, **Chair** 292-4968  
Ric Nelson, **Vice-Chair** 451-8384  
Richard Lee, **Secretary** 233-2367  
Paul Fell 450-5372  
Susan Griffith 233-2699  
Bill Haas, **Stewardship Representative** 232-7138  
Ben Kellen, **FFC Representative** 460-2844  
Bob Rudman 296-0262  
Tim Simodynes 663-0715  
Joel Thilges, **Finance Council Representative** 233-9830  
Sly Upah 450-7734  
Cyndi Volcko 451-4749  
David Nelson, **Youth representative**  
Katie Upah, **Youth representative**

## FINANCE COUNCIL

Joel Thilges, **Chair** 233-9830  
John Nelson, **Vice Chair** 233-1705  
Janet Kazwell, **Secretary** 451-3766  
Johna Clancy 232-7628  
Mark Hanson 233-6824

## FAITH FORMATION

Ben Kellen, **Chair** 460-2844  
Francine White, **Vice-Chair** 233-5553  
Tina Colburn, **Secretary** 509-1827  
Steve Heideman 292-5441  
Julie Novy 450-5522  
Marilyn Wagner 515-827-5933  
Matt Wenger 290-9260  
Carrie Herrman, **Youth representative**  
A.J. Royer, **Youth representative**

## CATHOLIC SCHOOL BOARD

Craig Fink, **President** 233-1567  
Darryl Bennett, **Vice-President** 450-4460  
Kathy Ramirez, **Secretary** 232-1248  
Dr. Tom Budnik & John Kinley, **Co-Principals** 232-5290  
Steve Hustedt 956-4388  
Jason Mortimer 296-1858  
Duane Wolf 473-4608  
Staci Esch, **FSA President** 450-5065

## Mass Intentions for the Week

### Saturday, December 8—Immaculate Conception

9:00AM: Parishioners of St. Cecilia  
5:00PM: Nate & Denise Brunia

### Sunday, December 9

8:30AM: Parishioners of St. Cecilia  
10:30AM: Carl Benson  
5:00PM: Patricia Colstrom †  
Misa en Español (Chapel)

### Tuesday, December 11

8:00AM: Jack Gehm †  
5:30PM: Steve Sutter †

### Wednesday, December 12

9:00AM: All-School Mass  
Priest's Intention  
5:30PM: Audrey Welp Dunkbar †

### Thursday, December 13

8:00AM: Norma Busch  
5:30PM: Faithful Departed

### Friday, December 14

8:00AM: Our Lady of Good Counsel  
Rosary Makers  
5:30PM: Nicholas Clabaugh †

### Saturday, December 15

5:00PM: Mark Wessman †

### Sunday, December 16

8:30AM: Parishioners of St. Cecilia  
10:30AM: Tim Ross  
5:00PM: Lee Stork  
Misa en Español (Chapel)

### MASS SCHEDULE

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

**Weekday:** Tuesday-Friday 8:00AM & 5:30PM (Chapel)

**Sunday: Bar** 5:1-9/Phil 1:4-6, 8-11/Lk 3:1-6

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

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### BULLETIN DEADLINES

**DEC. 23 & Dec. 30 BULLETIN**-announcements due by noon on Wed. Dec. 12 (This is one combined bulletin for both weekends).

**JAN. 6 BULLETIN**-announcement due by noon on Wed. Dec. 26

## PRAYER OPPORTUNITIES

Prayer opportunities held in the Chapel.

**Scripture Rosary**.....Monday 7:00AM  
**Intercessory Prayer Group**.....Sunday 9:00-10:00PM  
**Rosary** ..... Monday 7:30PM\*, Tuesday-Friday before 8:00AM  
 Mass (\*The rosary is said for Pro-life the first Monday of each month.)  
**Christians in the Spirit**..... Tuesday 7:15-9:00PM  
**Chaplet of Divine Mercy**.....Friday 3:00PM  
**Liturgy of the Hours**.....Saturday 7:00AM  
**Eucharistic Adoration** .....The chapel is open daily, keypad access only between 10:00PM & 6:00AM.

\*\*Contact the Parish Office at 233-3092 to have your information forwarded to the Coordinators to schedule a weekly holy hour.

### PRAYER CHAIN

Call requests to Marge Sutter at 233-2622.

### Daily Mass Cancellation Policy due to Inclement Weather

- 8AM weekday Mass will be cancelled if St. Cecilia School has a late start or has been cancelled due to a winter storm.
- 5:30PM weekday Mass will be cancelled if St. Cecilia School has early dismissal or has been cancelled due to a winter storm.

Please watch for St. Cecilia School weather related updates through the various media outlets for cancellations, late starts, or early dismissals.

### YOUR FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

|                    | <u>DEC.</u> | <u>JUL.-DEC.</u> |
|--------------------|-------------|------------------|
| Contributions MTD  | \$ 30,340   | \$412,197        |
| Budget for DEC.    | \$189,160   | \$643,560        |
| Building Imp. Fund | \$ 1,741    | \$ 19,685        |

### 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.

## RECONCILIATION

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

### PARISH OFFICE

Hours .....Monday-Thursday  
 8:30AM-4PM  
 Friday 8:30AM-2:30PM  
 Phone.....(515) 233-3092  
 Fax.....(515) 233-6423  
 Priest Residence.....(515) 233-9477

### PARISH STAFF

**Pastor**.....Father James Secora  
[jsecora@stceciliaparish.org](mailto:jsecora@stceciliaparish.org)  
**Pastoral Associate** .....Jo Anne Dalhoff  
[jdalhoff@stceciliaparish.org](mailto:jdalhoff@stceciliaparish.org)  
**Deacons** .....Gary Aitchison, Alan Christy  
 John McCully and  
 Ron Smith  
**Director of Music & Liturgy**...Robert Hauser  
[bhauser@stceciliaparish.org](mailto:bhauser@stceciliaparish.org)  
**Business Manager**.....Char VanKerckvoorde  
[cvankerc@stceciliaparish.org](mailto:cvankerc@stceciliaparish.org)  
**Administrative Assistant**....Kathy Best  
[kbest@stceciliaparish.org](mailto:kbest@stceciliaparish.org)  
**Receptionist** .....Dawn Cowles  
[dcowles@stceciliaparish.org](mailto:dcowles@stceciliaparish.org)

### FAITH FORMATION

Phone.....(515) 232-3514  
 Fax.....(515) 232-2875  
**Director of Faith Formation**.....Tom Primmer  
[tprimmer@stceciliaparish.org](mailto:tprimmer@stceciliaparish.org)  
**Asst. to the Director of Faith Formation**...Julie Anne Bovenmyer  
[jboven@stceciliaparish.org](mailto:jboven@stceciliaparish.org)  
**Youth Ministry Coordinator**.....Anna Steele  
[astele@stceciliaparish.org](mailto:astele@stceciliaparish.org)  
**Administrative Assistant**....Dori Gass  
[dgass@stceciliaparish.org](mailto:dgass@stceciliaparish.org)

### SCHOOL

Phone.....(515) 232-5290  
 Fax.....(515) 232-2875  
**Co-Principals**.....Dr. Tom Budnik & John Kinley  
[principal@stceciliaschoolames.org](mailto:principal@stceciliaschoolames.org)  
**Administrative Assistant**....Lois Vidimos  
[lvidimos@stceciliaschoolames.org](mailto:lvidimos@stceciliaschoolames.org)

The Gabriel Project is a crisis pregnancy assistance program. Call 450-6473 for assistance.  
 Birthright offers free pregnancy tests and counseling. Confidential. 108 Hayward Ave. 292-8414.

Lost and Found-Check Coat Rack or Call Parish Office 233-3092 for lost Coats.