

# CONTRIBUTION OPTIONS

St Cecilia offers several options for a reliable, safe way to move your stewardship plan into action. It allows you to share your gifts through planned giving and activates your generosity into ongoing stewardship. Your parish and school benefit from steady, more predictable revenues throughout the year, more efficient bookkeeping and greater confidence in meeting financial commitments. Your time to complete this form is greatly appreciated.

## 1. Secure On-line Giving

Secure Online Giving works just like paying an online bill. You can set up a one-time donation, recurring weekly payment, or make a monthly donation. It's easy to allocate different amounts for different collections, and view complete, accurate financial records at any time. You can get started with Online Giving in just three easy steps:

1. Visit St Cecilia website, stceciliaparish.org, and click on "On line giving/Event registration".
2. Follow the guide to set up your account.
3. Choose your payment options and customize your donations.

## Benefits to Making Church Donations Online

- Eliminate the need for writing checks.
- Choose a payment option that works for you—debit, credit card, savings account, or checking account
- Convenient when traveling—you can still donate while away from home
- Easily adjust amount of recurring donations
- Full donation history online
- Receive e-mail reminders of scheduled donations prior to account deductions

**Flexible Options and Complete Financial Control** With on line donations, you have complete control over your online offering. You adjust your donation at your convenience, making changes to the timing or amounts. All this from the comfort and security of your home, office, or anywhere with an Internet connection.

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## 2. Giving Envelopes

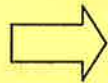
- Yes, please send contribution envelopes to my home address.

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## 3. Automatic Debit to your bank account.

- Please complete the form on the reverse side of this sheet and submit to the parish office.

SEE OTHER SIDE FOR FORM



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## 4. Show your financial support by utilizing the yellow donation card.

Obtain a Yellow Donation Card from an usher and then drop into the basket, indicating you utilize an option for automatic or online giving.

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## 5. And of course, you may drop your contribution check into the basket as you choose.

**Would you like to receive your year end contribution statement VIA e-mail?**

- Yes, please send my contribution statement VIA email.

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

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# Saint Cecilia Parish/School

Ames, Iowa

## Authorization Agreement for Pre-Authorized Payment (EFT)

The undersigned hereby authorizes Saint Cecilia Parish/School to initiate electronic withdrawals (debits) for the described amounts from the following account:

Name of Financial Institution: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, and Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

ACCOUNT NO. \_\_\_\_\_

( ) Checking [please attach a **voided check**]

AMOUNT per withdrawal: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Amount of Distribution:

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Parish Support

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Building Improvement/Repair Fund

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ School Tuition \_\_\_\_\_ in-parish \_\_\_\_\_ non-parish \_\_\_\_\_ non-Catholic \_\_\_\_\_ preschool

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Tuition Assistance \_\_\_\_\_ School \_\_\_\_\_ RelEd

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Social Justice Committee

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Fuel and energy fund

Please indicate **withdrawal frequency**:

( ) 1<sup>st</sup> of Month

( ) 15<sup>th</sup> of Month

( ) 1<sup>st</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> (split amount)

This authority is to remain in full force and effect until Saint Cecilia Parish/School and the financial institution have received written notification from the undersigned of its termination in such time and in such manner as to afford Saint Cecilia Parish/School and the financial institution at least two weeks in advance.

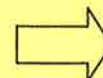
Name(s) [Please PRINT]: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Signed \_\_\_\_\_

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

I would like to receive my Annual Contribution Statement by Email \_\_\_\_\_ YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO



# 2012-2013 FAITH FORMATION

## A YEAR IN REVIEW!

Volume 1, Issue 1 June 2013

### Many Class Sessions Held

2012-2013 went by too fast! We tackled office staff changes, many events to plan, catechists in services to put together and the list goes on and on.

We hit the ground running and collectively we conquered the task list that was in front of us.

There was a total of 327 students that attended Faith Formation Sessions held on Sunday, Monday and Wednesday evenings. Catholic school students in Kindergarten-5th grades

totalled 193. Pre-K had 49 weekday students enrolled.

A total of 236 Faith Formation sessions were held throughout the year in addition to several special liturgies. These sessions were held daily in the Catholic School and Sunday, Monday and Wednesday for evening and weekend programs.

Is it any wonder that we are good stewards of using and sharing space in our large St. Cecilia Catholic Family.

2013-2014 Class & Activities Sign-up Will Be Available Online!

### Staff was on the Move!

After lots of communication and staff planning we successfully attended many required Archdiocese meetings.

4 Faith Formation Leader Days and 2 Parish Leader Days sponsored on by the Archdiocese.

7 DIOCORE meetings for the deanery. We also read and discussed the book, *Catholicism* by Father Robert Barron.

Planned, facilitated and implemented with our DIOCORE group two deanery wide in-services complete with two guest speakers.

Three staff members completed a 13 week ALPHA course in Ankeny. We are excited to bring this to St. Cecilia's parish of 2013.

Contact us through the St. Cecilia Parish Website [www.stceciliaparish.org](http://www.stceciliaparish.org) under Contacts Tab email addresses are listed there.  
Faith Formation Office: 515-232-3514

### Catechists make it happen!

Many activities took place this year for the students. There was a lot of construction paper, bibles, workbooks and various other craft items that went into classroom learning as tools to aid the students.

With technology as it is "these days" catechists were able to interact with students by using dvd's, YouTube and other videos to teach lessons.

4th graders in Ms. June Burns class made God rocks to carry with them. They also depicted their ideas onto paper murals of bible stories.

Mr. Vidimos and Ms. Hamilton took their 5th graders on a field trip to a Northcrest care facility to understand Matthew 25 ; "I was sick and you visited me". They interacted with the residents in one on one activities.

Mrs. Mary Christy enlisted Deacon Alan Christy to perform a mock baptism for the 3rd graders.

Ms. Suzanne Sander worked on learning prayers with the 1st grade students. Crowns were decorated as they accomplished their goals.

Students in class with the Mr. & Mrs. Bernhard for 2nd grade made placements with daily

prayers on them for meal times.

Some of the older classes watched inspirational movies in order to grasp some of today's life lessons.

Thanks to the all of our catechists for all their hard hours of prep time.

In addition to class time catechists also attended several of the 18 in services offered to them covering classroom man-

I am most proud of the many hours of dedicated service to Christ and His Church that our Teachers and Catechists provided.~ Tom

I am most proud of the MANY new things I learned from our St. Cecilia staff, catechists, youth and our parents this year! I am so very grateful to be here. dori





## FIRST EUCHARIST CELEBRATED

Julie Anne Bovenmyer, Assistant Faith Formation Director planned and facilitated eight parent meetings for both First Eucharist and First Reconciliation families. These meetings allowed parents and children to learn more about sacramental preparation and ask questions.

Two days of learning centers were set up for each student to go through with their parents allowing them to learn about the sacrament and experience the Eucharist before the special day.

Thanks to the combined efforts of parents, catechists and school teachers these children received many hours of preparation for their First Eucharist.



## Smart Discipline Session

On Thursday April 24th many parents, grandparents, care givers and staff attended the free Smart Discipline workshop hosted by the Faith Formation office.

This workshop offered ways to aid in dealing with children's behaviors without having the power struggle we sometimes encounter.

Lead by Jim Gamett from Des Moines who has conducted these seminars all over Iowa.

Tom Primmer, Director Faith Formation  
Julie Anne Bovenmyer, Assistant Director Faith Formation  
Anna Steele, Youth Minister  
Dori Gass, Administrative Assistant

## Our Walk in His Footsteps!

Brian Casey of Good News Ministry, Seattle Washington held a four day Parish Mission for parishioners of St. Cecilia's. In April. Mr. Casey covered a wide variety of topics such as How to Pray and Stewardship. Thank you to all of the parishioners that attended and shared with us afterwards your experience. We have a full set of dvd's and cd's available in the Faith Formation office if you would like to check them out.

I am most proud of the many families that I have worked with this year that model for their children how important their faith is to them. It has not always been easy but the love of Jesus has continued to shine through you!  
Many catechists and office volunteers that helped our program run so smoothly! Ask any one on staff how valuable these helpers are and how they added so much to the joy of our journey.  
And last but not least, the Faith Formation staff. The trust and support shared by this team is amazing! Tom, Anna and Dori are fantastic to work with and always willing to pitch in and help each other, no matter what the task  
I am most proud of those that walk this faith journey with me, challenge me along the way and yes, sometimes even give me a needed push in the right direction! Thanks Dori!!!! I am so blessed to work with so many talented people.  
Stop by the office and see how you can become involved with this great group. Blessings, Julie Anne

## We APPRECIATE our catechists and volunteers barbeque!



ISU Men's Basketball Team

We fired up the grill and held a barbeque with Youth Ministry to thank our many volunteers. Thanks to Todd Clancy for grilling we had burgers and hot dogs!

There are so many volunteers and catechists that dedicate their personal time to teach and help make our children safe.

When we learned a Faith Formation volunteer missed an ISU game one night to man "his post" in the hallway, we got an idea!

After contacting the ISU men's

team liaison they committed to sending some players over to "pay it forward" to the St. Cecilia volunteer community.

We even kept it a secret until that day!

Six very tall ISU players showed up ready to shoot some hoops with the kids, it was so awesome!

They handed out posters, auto-graphed them and took many photos with the kids and parents!

This was a small token of our gratitude to ALL of the people that volunteer their time and talent for the youth of St. Cecilia's.

Hope to see many of you back for the 2013-2014 year.



Proudly Supporting Youth Ministry & Faith Formation  
**Charles Stastny, FIC** (515) 344-0962 charles.stastny@kofc.org



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# Staying Totally Connected

June 2013 Volume 1, Issue 1

## ST CECILIA'S YOUTH MINISTRY PROGRAMS IN ACTION!

### Youth Ministry in NUMBERS

It was a fun faith filled year of formation in Youth Ministry.

These statistics are straight from the memory of Anna Steele, coordinator of Youth Minister to over 300 teens and preteens.

18 teens attended Catholic Heart Work Camp in Summer '12 to help in Jamaica. They visited Mt. Rushmore and the Badlands on their way home.

34 EDGE participants went skiing at Seven Oaks this February, right after the biggest snow storm of the year! This and many other relational ministry programs are set up throughout the year.

Over 300 "Love Bags" were personally delivered by the Core Team in the Spirit of St. Valentine to the homes of our middle and high schoolers. The Love Bags included a variety of prayer tools, and goodies, to prepare teens for Lent! This helped contribute to double the Rice Bowl donations this year. 23 juniors and seniors attended bi-monthly

Totus Tuus meetings as part of our Life Teen Leadership Team. They also turned the tables and led a Core Retreat in February "Sharing the Mantle."

28 tenth graders participated in bi-monthly Theology of the Body classes, led by Pat Stahr for the boys and Julia & Abby Hanson for the girls, where they learned about chastity as a way of life and a "crown of triumph" (St. Josemaria Escriva).

Over 150 teens, sponsors and parents attended our Confirmation Days of Reflection this year, facilitated by Joel Rogers. Our first Day of Reflection was "The Big Twelve," on the transformation of the apostles. The second Day of Reflection, "Colossal Faith," introduced teens to martyrs of the Church. We learned about the Creed they died for, so we could live it every day.

Finishing the year we presented

44 youth for Confirmation to Archbishop Hanus on April 14, 2013.



God Save the Queen Life Teen Night Fall 2012



Badlands Trip CHWC 2012



Yule Ball 2012



### *Adults make it happen...we couldn't do it without them.*

John & Carol Nelson also led a bi-monthly bible study for freshmen on the Acts of the Apostles, helping prepare them for the Sacrament of Confirmation. The entire Nelson family was a beautiful witness to our community this year!

This Spring, 8 adults celebrate their Fourth Anniversary together as the Core Team that launched our Life Teen program. We love you, Matt Aitchison, Todd & Johna Clancy, Elizabeth Engelken, Julia Hanson, Katy Hyatt and Pat & Mindy Stahr! Thank you for providing a home away from home for our young people.

John and Jill Sankovitch, leaders of Team Alpha for Life Teen, won Best Costume as Rita Skeeter & Severus Snape at our Yule Ball (*see photo*)

Pat Stahr led the young men while Abby and Julia Hanson led the young ladies in Theology of the Body weekly classes.

**EXCITING NEWS:** St. Cecilia and St. Thomas Aquinas Faith Formation are combining resources for ONE amazing youth ministry program in 2013-2014! Your support and prayers are crucial for the success of this joint adventure. More information is available on our website, [www.saintcecialialifeteen.net](http://www.saintcecialialifeteen.net)





### Teens Participate

In many ways! Our ninth grade candidates joined with Life Teen parishes around the country to pray a decade of the rosary before the Blessed Sacrament for the parishes of Newtown, Connecticut, in January.

We held two awesome overnight Lock-Ins for EDGE. Our Fall Lock-In theme was "Fit for a King," where we remembered who we really are - Christian gentlemen and ladies made with dignity! Our Spring overnight, "JOPE," featured scavenger hunts and incredible witness talks about the Joy and Hope of Easter, facilitated by our sophomores.

In 2012 and 2013, 21 teens attended the Life Teen Leadership Conference, where they are challenged to "get comfortable with being uncomfortable," because "the world promises you comfort but you were not made for comfort, you were made for greatness" (Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI). These leaders, each in their own way, don't lead lives of the average teenager you see on TV because they know that to be Catholic is to be *different*. Get to know them - they are some of the bravest people you will ever meet.



And then there was more to do...

Our Confirmation candidates **Journeyed** together through an epic weekend of transformation in January 2013. Three days faith-sharing and candle-passing inspired teens to open their hearts to the Holy Spirit and be brave enough to not remain the same.

Whether you attended our Yule Ball, Amore meal, pancake breakfast, the farewell reception for Archbishop Hanus or devoured a made-to-order omelet at our Mother's Day Brunch, we hope you felt the love we have for our community!

Thank you for your generous support for all Youth Ministry activities.

What is your greatest fear? Snakes? Spiders? Heights? 92 teens and parents gathered for our Fall Retreat "Not Afraid of the Dark" to face our fears and surrender them to Christ. We celebrated mass, shared witness talks and Reconciliation. (Any parishioner is welcome to join our Fall Retreat this August, 2013, featuring Fr. David Schatz!)

**We will also be hiring 4 college-aged interns to keep our programs dynamic and relevant for all families. Please encourage any fantastic Catholic collegians you know to apply by July 1. Applications are available at [stcames.org](http://stcames.org).**



CORE Team



### What does all of this mean? Youth Ministry lingo!



Youth group for students in grades 6th-8th



Youth group for students in grades 9th-12th

Tolus Tuus: Upperclassman missionary team, makes executive decision concerning 6-12 programming

Theology of the Body (TOB): is the study of how the mystery of God is manifest in the human body.

Small groups (10th-12th grades) study together and learn about why we were created as man and women, as well as many of the Church's teachings about sexuality and vocation.

The curriculum used is "Theology of the Body for Teens" by Ascension Press.

### I'm most proud of...

Once upon a time, Catholic youth ministers had to take their teens to a faraway land for a youth conference so they could feel the love of Christ in the Church. That story has ended! Here at Saint Cecilia, we have dozens of adults who give in a small way to incarnate the love of God for our teens. As we approach our fifth year of Life Teen, I think we are mastering what teens really need from us: crazy fun and crazy Truth. That's what being Catholic is all about! We've learned that one adult can change the life of a teenager, but statistics show that one adult can only really serve as a valuable mentor to up to eight teens. Our Core Team, Confirmation Sponsors and Parents are turning our parish around to create a more youth-friendly environment. We have not just one youth minister, but a *parish* of youth ministers! At least once a week, I receive a phone call from another diocesan youth minister wanting to talk about our program and why they continue to hear great things! We are looking forward to joining our adventures in youth ministry with the teens and families of St. Thomas Aquinas next year.

Keep up the great love for our teens, Saint Cecilia. May all teens, and all "young" Christians, see the face of Christ in you.

~Anna~

### Thank You is not enough!

Burke for 4 cases of sausage!

Barilla for pasta and sauce.

Fazoli's breadsticks for Amore Meal

Fareway sausage links and Dahl's Pancake Breakfast supplies!!

Little Caesar's - discount and personal delivery from the owner.

CONNIE VACLAV - Core Support for helping with food at almost all overnights & retreats

CORE!!!!

Custodian staff for all the cleaning up you do!

The Corkreans, Paula Gallit, Juan Foegen, Jim Nespor and Stan Peterson for all their volunteer hours.

LaMar family for so many eggs.

Many many many many parents!

Parishoners for their time and support!! :)

Check us out on the St Cecilia website  
[www.stceciliaparish.org](http://www.stceciliaparish.org) YM tab  
For up to date calendars and program information



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