

December 7, 2014 | 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)



**S**aint Cecilia Parish is a Roman Catholic community formed by the Word of God, united by the Holy Eucharist and enlivened by the Holy Spirit. By our commitment to the teachings of Christ and His Church, the sacraments and charity, our parish strives to build up the body of Christ through worship, life-long faith formation and evangelization.

## Immaculate Conception of the Virgin Mary

Monday, December 8

7AM, 9AM all school Mass and 7PM Mass

## Christmas Eve Masses

Wednesday, December 24: 4:00, 6:30 and 10:00PM

(Incense will be used at the 10:00PM Mass, so if allergic, plan accordingly.)

## Christmas Day Mass

Thursday, December 25: 10:00AM

## Holy Mary, Mother of God

Wednesday, December 31 at 5PM

Thursday, January 1 at 10AM

## Advent Communal Reconciliation Services

Sunday, December 7, 2PM at St. Cecilia

Tuesday, December 9, 7PM at Sts. Peter & Paul

Wednesday, December 10, 7PM at St. Thomas Aquinas

Thursday, December 18, 7PM at St. Cecilia

## Individual Reconciliation Times

3:15-4:30PM Saturdays, December 13 & 20

5:30-7:00PM Wednesday, December 17

11AM-12PM Friday, December 19

5-6 PM Tuesday, December 23

*If at all possible, please participate in one of the area Communal Celebrations.*

*There will be sufficient priests so the time commitment should not be burdensome.*



**Give thanks for religious.** A parishioner writes, "We thank God today and every day for every religious sister who taught us in school, not only our ABC's but also to love God." Share your gratitude for the senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests who made a positive difference in so many lives. Please give generously to next week's collection for the **Retirement Fund for Religious.**

## FAITH FORMATION

### Children's Liturgy of the Word

Held each Sunday at 10:30 Mass

Children will be dismissed from the mass to participate, and then will return during the Offertory hymn.

Ages Pre-K through 2<sup>nd</sup> grade are welcome!

### FAITH FORMATION SCHEDULE

Sunday: Prek-5 <sup>th</sup> grades	9:00-10:15AM
Monday: 1 <sup>st</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup> grades	6:15-7:30PM
Wednesday: 6 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup> grades	7:00-8:15PM

### Holiday Schedule

#### No classes on the following dates:

Sun Dec. 21 through Jan 3, 2015 due to Christmas and New Year's Holiday

All classes resume the week of January 4, 2015

Faith Formation & Youth Ministry cancellations will be posted on KCCI and sent via e-mail.

In the case of inclement weather, please use your judgment if you should travel or not to classes.

In the case of school closing we will NOT have classes for Faith Formation or Youth Ministry.

### What: Women's Advent Book Club

**Who:** All Women of the parish are invited

**Where:** South Social Hall

**When:** Beginning Sun., Dec. 14 through Sun., Jan. 11 from 1:30-3:00PM

**Book:** A Friendship Like No Other by William Barry S.J.



## YOUTH MINISTRY

**Need a baby-sitter so you can do some Christmas shopping?! Teen leaders are offering a childcare/movie night on Fri., Dec. 12 for a free will donation.**

Contact the St. Cecilia Faith Formation Office for more information: [dgass@stceciliaparish.org](mailto:dgass@stceciliaparish.org).

You can sign up at <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040c4da9a62fab9-frozen>.

**You will use the Education Center entrance!**

**8<sup>th</sup> Grade & High School:** Sign up for the Yule Ball at [www.tinyurl.com/YuleBall2014](http://www.tinyurl.com/YuleBall2014).

"There is so much noise in the world! May we learn to be silent in our hearts and before God." @Pontifex

## EDGE

**Next Edge Wednesday, December 10  
Christmas Party at 7PM in the Education Center**

**SAVE THE DATE  
January 23rd  
WINTERJAM**

## BAPTISM

### BAPTISM PREPARATION

All parents seeking baptism for their child are expected to attend a preparation session.

**Baptism Preparation I** for first born child -  
Next session: Thur., December 11, 2014 at 6:15PM

**Baptism Preparation II** for second/later child -  
Next session: Thur., Jan. 22, 2015 at 7:00PM

Please call the parish office at 233-3092 for reservation.

Godparents are also expected to attend.

All sessions take place in the St. Louis Room



# Saint Cecilia SCHOOL

*In Christ We: Live, Love, Learn.*

**Dear Parents & Parishioners:** We are holding several events in December that we'd like to invite you to join us. Please take a look at our list of events and know you are always welcome!

- Monday, 12/8: 9AM All School Mass  
(Immaculate Conception)
- Monday, 12/15: 8:45AM Advent Prayer Service-  
All are Welcome!
- Tuesday, 12/16: 7PM Christmas Concert at  
Ames City Auditorium
- Wednesday, 12/17: 9AM All School Mass and 11:15AM  
Four-Year-Old Preschool Christmas Lunch
- Friday, 12/19: End of Second Quarter and 1:30PM  
Early Dismissal followed by Christmas Break
- Monday, 01/05: Classes Resume



### 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Class Trip Fundraiser

Help support the 5th grade and their class trip to the Omaha Zoo. Head to Noodles & Co. on Tues., Dec. 9 from 5-9PM. Bring in a flier or mention St. Cecilia's at the register and the 5th grade will get 25% of sales! Take the family out for a great dinner and a great cause!

**For admissions information call:**

**515-232-5290**

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

## SCRIP

### Scrip Tidbits!!

Did you know that you can do all of your Christmas gift card shopping through Scrip? Don't run from store to store getting your gift cards. Fill out a scrip order form online or turn it in to the parish office by Mon., and we'll leave all your cards in the office by the following Fri. We can order stores such as American Girl, Nike, UnderArmour, Gap, Dress Barn, Kohl's, JCPenny, Bath & Body Works, Ge-Angelo's, Aunt Maude's, Café, Dublin Bay, Red Lobster, Harry and David, Omaha Steaks, iTunes, Amazon and many others!

If you have any questions about Scrip, please contact Bev Williams or Shannon Schroeder at [scrip@stceciliaschoolames.org](mailto:scrip@stceciliaschoolames.org)

## Stewardship

### Commitment program Summary Report

The Grateful Sharing, Joyful Living program and the recent effort to secure financial commitments address a Key Objective of the Parish Strategic Plan and our practical need for a good estimate of our anticipated financial support for the coming year. The Key Objectives are to increase parish registration, sacramental preparation, financial contributions, and parishioner involvement. A good estimate of anticipated financial support is extremely important when we deliberate what services to parishioners and others are needed and how to budget appropriately for the same. With the support of the parish Stewardship Committee, Finance Council and Pastoral Council, a request for all to commit to a specific financial commitment for support of the parish in the coming year was mailed to all 1639 parish households.

Thank you to everyone who returned a completed commitment card. As Father Jim said in his Thank you letter, the results of this stewardship drive confirm our commitment as a community and a desire to continue our mission.

The 18.0% participation rate to date is far less than the 100% we were aiming for but the content of the responses received is inspiring.

- Total responses: 295 = 18.0%
- Total commitments received = 252
- Range = \$0 to \$380 per week
- Average weekly commitment = \$52.00
- Median weekly commitment = \$35.00
- Grand total committed so far = \$655,175

We understand that many parish members share their financial resources with the parish but don't make a commitment to do so regularly. So far in fiscal year 2014-2015 (Jul to Nov 2014), nearly 1/2 of all registered households are on record as having contributed \$391,423. Others contributed an additional \$21,145 in loose cash (no name attached). We are grateful to God for all of you. Please know that the door is always open for submission of your commitment response -- no matter when-- and no matter if you are increasing your contribution or not. Your financial commitment is more important than its size.

FISCAL YEAR 2014-2015 CONDENSED BUDGET			
Major Program	Income*	Support from Church	Total Program Cost
Church	\$1,242,200		\$642,200
School	\$585,440	\$320,000	\$905,440
Faith Formation	\$33,000	\$169,000	\$202,000
Youth Ministry	\$51,500	\$111,000	\$162,500
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,912,940</b>	<b>\$600,000</b>	<b>\$1,912,940</b>

\*From Offerings & other or Tuition, fees & other

"Sometimes when you sacrifice something precious, you're not really losing it. You're just passing it on to someone else." Mitch Albom, *The Five People You Meet in Heaven*

**Thank You      Thank You      Thank You**



# Mass Intentions for the Week

## Saturday, December 6

5:00PM: Althea Palmer †

## Sunday, December 7

8:30AM: Parishioners of St. Cecilia

10:30AM: Karen Braden †

5:00PM: Magra Family  
Misa en Español

## Monday, December 8

### Holy Day of Obligation

7:00AM: Priest Intention

9:00AM: All School Mass

7:00PM: Parishioners of St. Cecilia

## Tuesday, December 9

8:00AM: Alvera Irlbeck †

## Wednesday, December 10

8:00AM: Jack Gehm †

## Thursday, December 11

8:00AM: Rita Voss †

## Friday, December 12

8:00AM: Jean Zmolek †

## Saturday, December 13

5:00PM: Theodore Nostwich †

## Sunday, December 14

8:30AM: Parishioners of St. Cecilia

10:30AM: Theresa Vanderah †

5:00PM: Greg Bernhard †

### MASS SCHEDULE

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

**Weekday:** Tuesday, Thursday & Friday 8AM (Chapel)  
Wednesday 8AM (Chapel in Summer)

Wednesday 9AM All School Mass (Church During School Year)

### 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/)

### Holiday Office Hours

Parish Office will be closed December 25 & 26 and January 1 & 2.

Faith Formation Offices will be closed December 25 & 26 and January 1 & 2.

School Offices will be closed December 22 through January 2.

### Readings for the Week of December 7, 2014

**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 Lk 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

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### St. Thomas Aquinas Mass Times

#### Weekend Masses

4:45PM Saturday

8:30 & 10:30AM on Sunday

7PM Sunday

#### Weekday Mass

12:00 Noon Monday-Friday

9:15PM Thursday (TNL)

### Sts. Peter & Paul Mass Time

8:30AM Sunday in Gilbert

### UPCOMING DEADLINES

Don't Miss the  
**DEADLINE!**

December 21/28 (combined bulletin for Christmas & New Years) announcements  
Due by Wednesday, December 10

January 4 bulletin announcements  
due by Friday, December 19

Bulletin announcements are due by noon on the due date.

### MASS INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY

#### 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.

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



**Please Remember in Your Prayers: Phil Brown, Brother of Dave Brown; and Krystyna Burnett, Mother of Karen Burnett-Larkins; and Ed Fawkes.** May the Lord grant peace and consolation to their families in their time of need. May they and all who sleep in Christ, find in God's presence, light, happiness and peace.



#### TOOLS MISSING.

Someone borrowed the tool used to lock down the social hall divider for safety. Please return it to the parish office as soon as possible.

## MEETINGS

**St. Mary Circle** will meet for a salad luncheon Thur., Dec. 11, noon, at the home of Jane Baty. Please bring a salad to share. Call Joan at 232-2776 if you would like a ride.

**Catholic Daughters of America, Court Madonna #858** will be meeting in the South Social Hall of St. Cecilia Church on Thurs., Dec 11; dinner is at 6PM. A program of Christmas Music will be presented by Emil and Mary Kay Polashek at 7PM. A very brief business meeting and cookie exchange will follow. Guests are welcome to attend.

## OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE

### Parish Life Leadership Opportunity

- Are you a people person?
  - Do you enjoy connecting people?
- We currently have 16 organizations under the Parish Life umbrella within St. Cecilia Parish, i.e., (Funeral Lunches, Prayer Chain, Circles, Welcoming Committee, and Coffee & Donuts). We are seeking four individuals (could be 2 couples) to promote communication and alignment between the various Parish Life organizations and St. Cecilia Parish. Please contact Rick Brimeyer at 515-450-8855 if you have questions or are interested.

Thanks to all who participated in the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual St. Cecilia Christmas Market, making it a great success. The Social Justice Committee also thanks all those who donated or gave free will offerings for recycled Christmas decorations; \$791.70 was raised for Good Neighbor Emergency Assistance. Remaining decorations were donated to the Food at First Pass Along (Christmas) party and Goodwill. Thank you!

## RCIA

### Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

#### Have you noticed?

Nine adults are preparing to join the Catholic Church. Six of those nine people will celebrate the *Rites of Acceptance and Welcome* this Sun., Dec. 7 at the 10:30AM Mass. Please keep them in your prayers and continue to be the witnesses of faith to them and to others who may also be thinking about exploring membership in the Church here at St. Cecilia.

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, please contact Jo Anne Dalhoff at [RCIA@stceciliaparish.org](mailto:RCIA@stceciliaparish.org) or call the parish office at 515-233-3092

## COMMUNITY

Northminster Presbyterian Church, 1416 20th St, Ames, will be holding an Advent recital series, hosted by NPC organist Paul Hertz, each Sunday of Advent (12/7, 12/14, and 12/21) at 6PM. There will be a freewill offering that will go to support the Ames Emergency Residence Project.

## EVENTS

### New Member Registration after Masses this weekend Dec. 6 & 7.



**Thank you** to everyone who picked up a gift tag for the Giving Tree. Please return your wrapped gift with the tag attached to the collection boxes by NOON THIS SUN., DEC. 7, 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.

**Congratulations, St. Cecilia Parish!** It's been 18 years since scheduled Eucharistic Adoration began! It all started at 7AM in the Burke Chapel on Dec. 9, 1996. We give thanks to God that our parish has been blessed with so many committed people who are willing to come at all hours of the day and night to pray and spend time with our Lord Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. Thank you all for your prayerful support of this vital ministry. For more info or to choose a weekly adoration hour, please search Eucharistic Adoration at [www.stceciliaparish.org](http://www.stceciliaparish.org) or contact Cyndi Volcko 451-4749.

**The Rosary Makers** will meet Tues., Dec. 16 at 9:30AM at Pauline Skarda's Home.

## COMMUNITY

**Food at First-Help** is needed for the 5th Tuesday of each month in the year. (next 5th Tuesday is Dec. 30, 2014)Volunteers arrive at 5:10PM, sign in and help with serving, dishwashing and cleanup (usually until about 6:45). Volunteers are invited to partake in the meal as soon as guests have been served. If interested please call Elizabeth Koziel 515- 337-8091 or Julie Haas 515-232-7138

**The Bethany Life Volunteers** will be holding their annual Christmas Bake Sale & Craft Fair on Sun., Dec. 14. Stop by the Bethany Manor lobby between 9AM-2PM & pick up homemade baked goods (including potato cakes) & handmade craft items. This is a great way to support Bethany Life and stock up on goodies and stocking stuffers. We hope to see you there!



**Support Good Neighbor** and craft people throughout the world by shopping at Worldly Goods on Dec. 7 from 1-4 PM. A percentage of your purchase monies will go to Good Neighbor.

If you want to donate, in honor of a person on your gift list, to one of thirty international/national agencies or eight local agencies, orders can still be place until Dec. 18. There is a Community Market being held at W heatsfield Cooperative, 413 Northwestern, Ames on Sat., Dec. 13, 10AM-noon. After the 13th, you can call or email Cynthia Shriver (292-6584, [shriverc@gmail.com](mailto:shriverc@gmail.com)) or Julie Haas (232-7138, [julieann.m.haas@gmail.com](mailto:julieann.m.haas@gmail.com)) to order. Shopping lists for Alternative Gifts are available on the Social Justice bulletin board in the vestibule.

*Prayer opportunities held in the Chapel*

Scripture Rosary.....Monday 7:00AM  
Intercessory Prayer Group ..... Sunday 8:00-9:00PM  
Rosary .....Monday 7:30PM\*, Tuesday-Friday before 8:00AM  
Mass (\*The rosary is said for Pro-life the first Mon. 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  
Women's Rosary.....Tuesday 9:00PM

For Peace and Health in our world  
**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.

**Homebound Ministry**

If someone is unable to get to mass, please contact the parish office at 233-3092 to be added to the list to be visited.

Like us on Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/stcames>

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

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

Name:  
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Address:  
-----

City:  
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Zip:  
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Phone:  
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Email:  
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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.*

**RECONCILIATION**

Saturday 3:15-4:30PM and by appointment.

**PARISH OFFICE**

Hours .....Mon.-Thur. 8:30AM-4PM  
Fri. 8:30AM-2:30PM  
Phone.....(515) 233-3092  
Priest Residence.....(515) 233-9477  
St. Cecilia Website.....[stcames.org](http://stcames.org)

**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  
[cvankerck@stceciliaparish.org](mailto:cvankerck@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  
[asteele@stceciliaparish.org](mailto:asteele@stceciliaparish.org)  
**Coordinator of Middle School Youth Ministry**...Ricardo Garcia  
[rgarcia@stceciliaparish.org](mailto:rgarcia@stceciliaparish.org)  
**Administrative Assistant** ....Dori Gass  
[dgass@stceciliaparish.org](mailto:dgass@stceciliaparish.org)

**SCHOOL**

Phone.....(515) 232-5290  
Fax.....(515) 232-2875  
**Principal**.....Ervin Rowlands  
[erowlands@stceciliaschoolames.org](mailto:erowlands@stceciliaschoolames.org)  
**Administrative Assistant** ....Lois Vidimos  
[lvidimos@stceciliaschoolames.org](mailto:lvidimos@stceciliaschoolames.org)

**STEPHEN MINISTRY**

Referral Phone: 515-231-8099 [Deacon.alan.christy@gmail.com](mailto:Deacon.alan.christy@gmail.com)

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**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  
[www.birthrightames.org](http://www.birthrightames.org)