

Saint Cecilia Parish



**CHRISTMAS
MARKET**

Saint Cecilia Social Hall

Saturday, November 21

4:30PM - 6:30PM

Sunday, November 22

9:00AM - 12:30PM

Featuring:

Ames Alternative Gift Market—Charitable Gift Donations

Appalachia Committee—Jewelry & Baked Goods

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd—Cheese & Baked Goods

Catholic Daughters—Baked Goods & Crafts

Days for Girls—Cookies

Iowa State Students for Life—Pro-life Items, Rosaries, T-shirts, Baked Goods

Knights of Columbus—Christmas Cards

Martha's House of Hope - Pastries & Baked Goods

Nicaragua Mission Project—Poinsettias

One Heart Catholic Missions - Pies & Orders for Platters

Saint Cecilia Giving Tree—Tags for the Giving Tree

Saint Cecilia Social Justice—Recycled Christmas Decorations

Saints Peter & Paul Church—Christmas Ornaments

Pancake Breakfast served by the St. Cecilia 5th Grade Class following the Sunday Masses (free will donations to support their parent-sponsored end-of-year class trip).

Stewardship — A Way of Life

- Stewardship is a Way of Life, a life of total accountability and responsibility, acknowledging God as Creator and Owner of all. Stewards as disciples of Jesus Christ see themselves as caretakers of all God's gifts. Gratitude for these gifts is expressed in prayer, worship, offering, and action by eagerly sharing these gifts out of love of God and one another.
- Stewardship is based on the spiritual principles of the Old Testament and the teachings of Jesus; and where it has been implemented, both givers' and receivers' lives have been changed. Stewardship is a way of life, a way of thanking God for all His blessings by returning a portion of the time, talent, and treasure given to us.
- Stewardship is living out Christ's instruction to "love one another as I have loved you."
- Stewardship is caring. Stewardship is responsible management of our God-given resources of time, talent, and treasure. It enhances our relationship with God and one another.
- Stewardship pleases God because the good steward is careful of creation, is respectful of justice and charity, and is prayerful at all times. "Much will be required of the person entrusted with much and still more will be demanded of the person entrusted with more." (Luke 12:48)
- Stewardship is living out a commitment to be God-centered rather than self-centered. Profound gratitude, justice and love become the fundamental motives for giving back to God, the Creator and giver of all good gifts.
- Christian stewardship provides spirituality that a lay person can take home from church, exercise at work, and express through personal involvement in both the community and the Church.
- Christian stewardship successfully bridges the material world around us and the world of the Spirit within us.
- Stewardship gives joy! Those who voluntarily give their time and abilities for work in the parish will always experience joy if they give them for Christ.
- Stewardship is not job-oriented or project-minded. It is a way of life for a lifetime.
- Christian stewardship takes a positive view of money. It sees money not only as a medium of exchange but as a symbol of the person who has it. We reveal something of who we are by the way we acquire it, use it, and share it.
- Christian stewardship helps us to be aware that God is the giver of the gifts we have. Our gift to God should be from the top – the first fruits – not from what may be left over.
- Stewardship teaches Christians to be concerned about where and how to share their gifts. Stewardship is not just giving to meet the budget.
- Jesus Christ is God's greatest gift to us. Stewardship tells us to share a portion of our time, talent, and treasure so that the Gift, Jesus Christ, may be given to those who do not know Him.