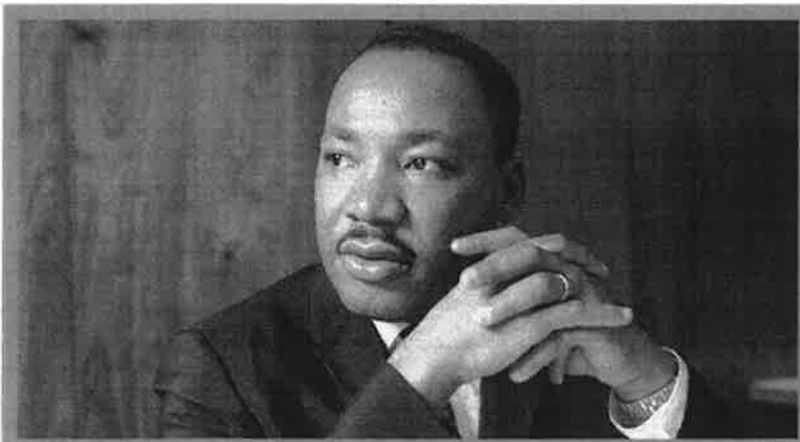




Raising Up the Beloved Community!



Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Interfaith Service

January 15, 2017

at 2:00 PM

Please join us to:

Raise Up King's Dream of the Beloved Community

Share the Ames Dream with Compassion in Action

Share the Dream with the Youth of YSS

Massed Choir of Local Area Singers and Ames Children's Choir

A love offering will be taken for the YSS Dream Seed Program

Fellowship Time immediately following the service

Hosted by

First United Methodist

Church of Ames

516 Kellogg Ave.

Ames, Iowa

INTERNATIONAL CATHOLIC STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL CATHOLIC STEWARDSHIP

January 2017 • e-Bulletin

A STEWARDSHIP PRAYER *for the New Year*

Good and gracious God,
a new year of grace is upon us,
giving us impressions of
crisp beginnings
new goals, a fresh sense of hope.

Though we cling to our own
expectations
for the year ahead,
we know you alone
are the sovereign of our future,
Lord of our lives, and the source
of whatever good we may do.

We thank you, O Lord,
for the gift of the days and weeks
you have entrusted to us.
Teach us to be good stewards
of our time ahead,
that we go about our days
keeping you
at the center of our lives.

In the midst of our daily pursuits
and activities,
focus our eyes on the needs of others;
help us respond with compassion
to the poor;
and open our hearts
to a suffering world.

We ask for a year of peace,
a year that brings an end
to hatred and strife,
and a year where we find
a deeper joy
that can only be found in you.

We ask this through Christ your Son
who lives and reigns with you
and the Holy Spirit,
One God, forever and ever.

Amen.

“Making All Things New”: Stewardship and New Year’s Resolutions

Stewardship is a commitment of mind and heart to the Lord; a way of life that needs constant renewal and transformation. This time of year has always been one of looking forward to a new year, reflecting on the changes we need to make in our lives and resolving to follow through on those changes. Perhaps those who seek to make resolutions to be better stewards might find inspiration in the following quick samples:

Stewardship of Prayer: Resolve to strengthen your relationship with the Lord. Notice how often you pray and what hinders you from praying. Commit to short, daily prayer times.



Stewardship of Family: Resolve to set aside more time to stay connected with your family. Eat dinner together, schedule regular dates with your spouse, plan family outings, and go to Mass together.

Stewardship of Health: Resolve to get those medical and dental checkups. Adopt healthier eating habits. Add exercise and other physical activity to your daily routine.

Stewardship of Possessions: Resolve to possess a little more “lightly” this year. Consider ways you can reduce the amount of all that stuff you own. Distinguish between those items that are necessary and those that are considered luxurious and unnecessary.

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Stewardship of the Parish Family: Resolve to serve your faith community in some way this year such as at liturgy, in the parish's outreach or education and formation efforts.

Stewardship of Money: Resolve to render sacred your annual budget. Reprioritize your financial goals to ensure that the Lord comes first in your spending. Take positive steps to improve your financial health.



Stewardship of Work: Resolve to be faithful to your daily, work-related tasks and offer them up to the Lord. Cultivate your skills. Deepen your knowledge. Be mindful of how you are building the Kingdom of God.

Stewardship of Mind: Resolve to keep your mind active. Commit to being more informed on the issues of the day. Read your Bible. Familiarize yourself with the Church's social teachings.

This time of year has always been one of looking forward to a new year, reflecting on the changes we need to make in our lives and resolving to follow through on those changes.



Stewardship of Neighbor: Resolve to be a person of hospitality; to make time and space for others who enter your life. Be more aware of those times when a neighbor, co-worker, fellow parishioner or stranger, needs a moment of kindness, a little attention or an affirming gesture on your part.

Stewardship of the Poor: Resolve to live with more compassion and in solidarity with those less fortunate. Remember the poor in prayer, and commit to helping relieve in some way the plight of those who are impoverished or marginalized.

Save the Date

and Save the Cost!

2017 Annual Conference

September 17-20, 2017

MEMBERS ONLY
Early-bird Special

Visit
catholicstewardship.com
for more information



CONTACT US

Call (800) 352-3452

or email

ICSC@catholicstewardship.org

St. Cecilia Quarter Notes

(Jan.—March 2017) St. Cecilia—Patron Saint of Musicians



SCHOOL NEWS

Our 2016-17 school year has flown by, but so much has happened between August 24th, our first day of school and now. Here's some events we'd like to highlight for you:

Family School Association

St. Cecilia School had a great fall semester that included many fun activities to bring families together. Two of the highlights were the Ice Cream Social and Trunk or Treat. The year kicked off with a Back-To-School night and Ice Cream Social on August 22nd when students and their families could drop-off their school supplies, meet their teachers, and have ice cream.

On October 23rd the Family School Association hosted Trunk or Treat. This event was co-sponsored by the Parish Welcoming Committee, the 1st & 4th grade school families, and Burke Corporation. The event was open to all families



of the parish and over 270 people participated in Trunk or Treat and the walking

taco dinner. The St. Cecilia Family School Association (FSA) is organized by the families and teachers of St. Cecilia Catholic School to promote family life in the school through activities and projects that create community engagement and enhance the educational experience.

Blessing of the Animals

On October 4th, Deacon Ron Smith helped us celebrate Blessing of the Animals on the north lawn of the education center. We had dogs, cats, hamsters, several stuffed animals and a hedgehog that received blessings. What a fun event for us and our beloved pets!

Fire Department Assemblies

In October, the Ames Fire Department came in to talk to our students about Fire Prevention and Safety. We appreciate their time and our students love these assemblies and have good questions for our firemen.



All Saints Presentation by 4th Grade

In November the 4th graders presented their Museum of the Saints to St. Cecilia patrons. After researching a saint of their choice, created a piece of art to depict that saint. They wrote and recorded a report sharing about the saint's life and calling. After making the recordings, they attached them to a QR code, and as visitors arrived at each piece of art, they were greeted by their student docents and could scan the QR codes using an electronic device for an interactive experience. The museum was attended by students, friends, and family members.

After School Opportunities

We are also happy that our students have access to so many after school opportunities: Chess Club, After School Art Classes, Foreign Language, STEM and First Lego League. This fall, two First Lego League school teams and one alumni team have advanced onto State in January 2017.

WELCOME COMMITTEE

OUR PARISH MISSION: HELP ALL WHO ENTER OUR CHURCH
FEEL WELCOME, VALUED AND AT HOME

The St. Cecilia Welcome Committee, under the auspices of the Parish Life, helps fulfill our Parish Mission in two ways: by registering and contacting each new registrant and by collaborating with parish groups to host parish functions. Each of the approximately eighty annual new registrant families receives 3 or more personal contacts and is offered a Welcome Bag that includes the Parish Directory, cookbook, and materials about Parish programs. Here are activities that the Welcome Committee planned and/or collaborated with this year:

- four registration weekends after Masses
- Trunk and Treat
- Joanne Dalhoff's retirement event
- Hispanic Ministry celebration for Fr. Herzog's 60th Ordination Anniversary
- four Welcome events that include a tour of school and church
- Family School Assoc. pizza dinner/ice cream social

We welcome you to join this rewarding Committee!!! To become a member of the Welcome Committee please contact Joan Jones (291-1903). Please take every opportunity to introduce yourself to those at church whom you do not know. The Committee reminds you of Jesus' words, "*I was a stranger and you welcomed me.*"

FROM PANCAKES TO OMAHA

The St. Cecilia fifth graders held their annual pancake breakfast fundraiser the weekend of the Christmas Market. The fifth graders put on this fundraiser to help raise funds for their parent sponsored field trip to Omaha in May. In May the students will travel to Council Bluffs and take part in a service project at MICAH House. Following the service project the students will take a tour of St. Cecilia's Cathedral in Omaha. Their last stop will be the Omaha zoo where they will spend the night. They will go on a night nature hike, take in an IMAX movie and tour the zoo. The pancake breakfast raised \$1300 for the parent sponsored trip. It was a big success! Thank you to Burke for donating the sausage and to Hy-Vee for donating the fruit! A big thank you to everyone that attended and helped support the fifth grade class!

NINTH ANNUAL CHRISTMAS MARKET



St. Cecilia recently had its annual **Christmas Market**. The market was established in 2008 so that groups could raise funds for their charitable organizations. Recycled Christmas decorations, available for free-will donations, is a popular feature every year and is sponsored by St.

Cecilia Social Justice. All proceeds from the decorations are given to Good Neighbor Emergency Assistance, Inc.; over the past nine years, a total of \$5,945.33 has been donated to Good Neighbor Emergency Assistance, Inc.

Other groups participating this year included Allie Fecht Strong, Ames Alternative Gift Market, Catholic Daughters, Days for Girls, Knights of Columbus, Nicaraguan Mission Trip, Students for Life and St. Thomas Aquinas Honduras Coffee. Gift tags for the Giving Tree were available for people to pick up. The St. Cecilia School fifth grade class also had a pancake breakfast during the Christmas Market to raise money for their parent-sponsored class trip. Doreen Berg was the chair for this year's event.

MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT: DATE NIGHT

Putting Jesus at the center of our married lives is crucial for maintaining a strong marriage. Only in Him can we find the strength and grace to face the many challenges and joys that come our way. But how do we make Jesus the center point of our lives?

All adults from the area are invited to join us in the St. Cecilia Social Hall. This quarter's meetings are January 7, February 4, and March 4. Each session has a different topic. A meal is served at 6:15PM (a meal will be provided for the children), followed by our presentation/conversation at 7PM. Our evenings conclude by 8:45PM. Child care is provided. For additional information, watch for bulletin announcements, or contact Deacon Ron and Mary Smith at 515-441-0480 or email at DeaconRon.Ames@gmail.com.

St. Cecilia Catholic Church, 2900 Hoover Ave., Ames IA 50010 U Parish Office—515-233-3092 U stcames.org

St. Cecilia *Quarter Notes* is a quarterly publication of St Cecilia that helps keep parishioners aware of some of the stewardship opportunities and activities available to them. Information on activities can also be found at stcames.org and in the weekly bulletin.

For additional information please contact the parish office at 233-3092 or parishbulletin@stceciliaparis.org.