

# THE CATHOLIC CHURCHES OF ST. CECILIA • ST. MARY • ST. PATRICK

April 26 & 27, 2025

## CONTACT information



**Fr. Ray Higgins** - Please reach him on rectory number

**Deacon Dennis Patrick** - (641) 757-0851 or  
deacondennisp@gmail.com

**Rectory** - (641) 747-2569

**Office** - (641) 747-3843

**Web** - <https://st-mary-patrick-cecilia.com/>

### Business Manager:

Geri Thompson - stcstmstp@netins.net

### Parish Secretary:

Misean Hernandez - stmpcsecretary@outlook.com

### Director of Religious Education:

Jamie Carlson - stmpcdre@gmail.com

### Cemetery Grounds Keeper and Coordinator

Chris Downing- (641) 740-7943

Justin Downing - (515) 250-8988

### Sacramental Emergencies

In the event of an emergency, please contact Fr. Ray Higgins at (641) 747-2569 for the emergency number.

### Sacrament Guidelines:

Contact the Rectory to make arrangements prior to marriage and baptismal sacraments.

### Bulletin Announcements:

Send bulletin announcements to Misean at  
stmpcsecretary@outlook.com

## PARISH announcements



### Congratulations on Confirmation!!

Evan England, Max Shirbroun, Lucas Obert,  
Eli McAlister, Cole Cretsinger, Kerra Hart, Lilyan  
Namanny, Leegan Sease, Brandon Carlson, Rylee  
Robson, Kailee Kautzky, Karli Kautzky, Carrie  
Downing, Tanner Downing, Meranda Gruber, Coy  
Gruber, Brynlee Seeck, Lillie Lauzon, Ashley Crees,  
Morgan Crees, Sara Gibson, Jadyn Lawrence,  
Parker Meyer, Aden Rochholz, Kylie Rochholz  
and Elijah Sebern.

### First Communion

May 4th- St. Cecilia at 8:00 AM

May 4th- St. Mary at 9:30 AM

May 24th– St. Patrick at 4:30 PM

### St. Cecilia

We will be celebrating our three First Communi-  
cants and our graduating senior on May 4th.  
Please plan to join us after Mass for coffee and  
rolls and a chance to congratulate them!

### St. Mary's Parish– CYC tuition grant

St. Mary's parish offers tuition assistance for fami-  
lies of children going to Catholic Youth Camp.

Complete the form that will be in the back of St.  
Mary's church or online if you would like to  
receive tuition assistance from St. Mary's

to attend Catholic Youth Camp at St.

Thomas More this summer.



ST. CECILIA PARISH

220 N 1ST ST.  
PANORA, IA 50216



ST. MARY PARISH

603 MAIN STREET  
GUTHRIE CENTER, IA 50115



ST. PATRICK PARISH

214 PRAIRIE STREET  
BAYARD, IA 50029

# FROM THE DESK OF

## Fr. Ray Higgins



Dear Parish Family,

As we gather to celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday, we are drawn deeply into the heart of Christ, who revealed to St. Faustina the boundless mercy flowing from His Sacred Heart. Today's feast reminds us that no sin is greater than God's mercy and that we must be instruments of that same mercy in a world that desperately needs it.

It is with both sorrow and hope that I share the passing of Pope Francis. A shepherd with a heart for the poor, the forgotten, and the marginalized, Pope Francis touched the world with the tenderness of Christ. From the slums of Buenos Aires to the halls of the Vatican, his witness to mercy and humility has changed lives and challenged the Church to live out the Gospel more fully. Let us pray for his soul's repose and thank God for his profound example of pastoral love.

We also lift in prayer Fr. Michael Burner, a devoted priest of our Diocese, who has entered into eternal life. May the Lord reward him for his faithful service and welcome him into the joy of His Kingdom. We pray for his family, brother priests, and all who mourn his loss.

This weekend, we are honored to welcome Bishop William Joensen, who will administer the Sacrament of Confirmation to our students. The presence of a bishop among us reminds us of our unity with the wider Church and the apostolic foundation upon which our faith is built. Confirmation seals our young people with the gift of the Holy Spirit, strengthening them for a life of discipleship. Please keep them in your prayers so that they may be courageous witnesses of Christ in the world.

And in the spirit of joy and thanksgiving, we congratulate Susie and Dale Seidl on their 50th Wedding Anniversary! This weekend, they will renew their vows, a powerful witness to the grace of the Sacrament of Marriage and the enduring love that reflects God's covenant with His people. May the Lord bless them with health, happiness, and years of love together.

On this Divine Mercy Sunday, may our hearts be open to the mercy of Christ, and may we share that mercy freely with others.

In the peace of the Risen Christ,

Fr. Ray

**Welcome to the Catholic Church!!**

We want to welcome  
Monique Hoffman, Cari Gruber,  
Jacob Calmer and Tessa Hansen!!

## **Tribunal Advocate Training Information**

Time: 12-5 pm

Dates: Thursday, May 8: – Catholic Pastoral Center, 601 Grand Ave

Saturday, May 10: – St Patrick Parish, Neola

Saturday, May 17: – St Francis Parish, West Des Moines

Role of an Advocate:

An Advocate is a person with technical training in Tribunal procedures and grounds for marriage nullity, who can assist a person during the progression of his or her petition for a declaration of nullity, making sure that quality evidence is gathered and the person is as well represented as possible throughout the process.

This person is not required to assist in starting a case (that person is usually called a “case sponsor” but instead accompanies a party during their case.

We are planning to enhance the role of Advocates in our Diocese, which will result in more direct engagement between Advocates and those they represent. The biggest changes that individuals will notice are the following:

Advocates will interact directly with represented parties, during the stage of the process where information is submitted with the Tribunal.

Advocates will assist represented parties to help identify the most relevant grounds for potential nullity, and what information would be most helpful to support their petition or case.

At the conclusion of the case, Advocates will submit written arguments to the judge to assist him in his discernment.

Because of the substantial increase in investment in cases, Advocates will be offered a \$150 stipend per case.

Who:

Any properly trained Catholic in our Diocese can potentially serve as an Advocate, whether that be a priest, deacon, or layperson. The most important qualities that we are looking for in an Advocate are the following: (1) A understanding and belief in the Church’s teaching on the permanence of marriage, (2) a pastoral heart, and the willingness to patiently and lovingly accompany people through a petition for a declaration of nullity, and (3) an attentive mind, and the capacity to present thoughtful legal arguments on behalf of the represented party.

How:

This five hour training will provide a solid foundation for future Advocates, describing the Church’s teaching on marriage, how to understand potential grounds for nullity, how the procedure for adjudicating a petition for a declaration of nullity progresses, and the specific role of an Advocate.

A person will not immediately step into the role of Advocate after this training, but instead will enter into an ongoing formation and training process, and they will only be asked to serve as an Advocate once they feel fully equipped. Lunch will be provided at each training.

If you are personally interested in serving in this way, or would like to learn more, please reach out directly to Adam Storey at [astorey@dmdiocese.org](mailto:astorey@dmdiocese.org) or 515-237-5056.

The RSVP deadline for each training will be seven days in advance of the event.

Thank you so much for considering serving the people of God in the Diocese of Des Moines in this important ministry!



## WEEKLY calendar

### Saturday

4:00 PM Confessions, Bayard  
4:05 PM First Saturday Rosary, Bayard  
4:15 PM Divine Mercy, Bayard  
4:30 PM Mass, Bayard

### Sunday

7:30 AM Confessions, Panora  
7:45 AM Rosary, Panora  
8:00 AM Mass, Panora  
9:00 AM-10:00 AM Adoration, Bayard  
9:15 AM Divine Mercy, Guthrie Center  
9:30 AM Mass, Guthrie Center  
10:30 AM Confessions, Guthrie Center

### Monday

No Mass

### Tuesday

3:30 - 4:30 PM Adoration, Panora  
5:15 PM Confessions & Divine Mercy, Bayard  
5:30 PM Mass, Bayard

### Wednesday

7:45 AM Confessions & Divine Mercy, Panora  
8:00 AM Mass, Panora  
9:00 AM Prayer Group, Panora  
4:00 PM Adoration, Guthrie Center

### Thursday

7:45 AM Confessions & Divine Mercy, Panora  
8:00 AM Mass, Panora

### Friday

7:45 AM Confessions & Divine Mercy, Guthrie Center  
8:00 AM Mass, Guthrie Center

### All Parish Reminder for Weekly Offerings

Offerings can go directly to the general fund, the building fund, cemetery or ADA.

Please put your parish and chosen offering designation in the memo line.

## MASS intentions



Sat., April 26 at 4:30 PM — Mass for the People

Sun., April 27 at 8:00 AM — Mary & Max Glovas

Sun., April 27 at 9:30 AM — Karen Bellas

Tues., April 29 at 5:30 PM — Marie Murrane

Wed., April 30 at 8:00 AM — Miranda & George Holland

Thurs., May 1 at 8:00 AM — Novena for Holy Souls

Fri., May 2 at 8:00 AM — Ken Schmit & Be Rudloff

Sat., May 3 at 4:30 PM — Robert & June and Ed Vanderheiden

Sun., May 4 at 8:00 AM — Alan Nagel

Sun., May 4 at 9:30 AM — Marietta Alesch & her family

Tues., May 6 at 5:30 PM — Iola Muhlbauer

Wed., May 7 at 8:00 AM — Delphine Demers

Thurs., May 8 at 8:00 AM — Eddie Dorsett & Family

Fri., May 9 at 8:00 AM — Jack Stringer

### Chaplet of Divine Mercy Closing Prayer

Eternal God, in whom mercy is endless, and the treasury of compassion inexhaustible, look kindly upon us and increase Your mercy in us, that in difficult moments, we might not despair, nor become despondent, but with great confidence, submit ourselves to Your holy will, which is Love and Mercy Itself. Amen.

## WEEKLY offerings



### St. Cecilia Weekly Offering

Sunday weekly offering— \$4,209  
Holy Land- \$249

ADA Goal \$24,220 ADA Balance Due \$16,880

### St. Mary Weekly Offering

Sunday weekly offering— \$902  
Holy Land— \$315

ADA Goal \$15,849 ADA Balance Due \$10,599

### St. Patrick Weekly Offering

Sunday weekly offering— \$1,892  
Holy Land- \$252.85

ADA Goal \$11,272 ADA Balance Due \$9,532