

THE CATHOLIC CHURCHES OF St. Cecilia - St. Mary - St. Patrick

OCTOBER 10 & 11, 2026

PARISH NEWS

Annunciation Men's Club Breakfast

Sunday, October 18 • 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Annunciation Parish Center, Coon Rapids
Adults \$8.00 • Children 10 & under \$4.00

All Carry outs available for \$8.00

Serving:

- Pancakes
- Eggs
- Sausage



COUNCIL MEETINGS

Upcoming Parish Council Meeting dates:

St. Patrick • Oct. 13 • 6:30 PM

St. Mary • Oct. 14 • 6:00 PM

St. Cecilia • Oct. 20 • 6:30 PM

See you soon!



Faith, Fellowship & Conversation

A casual monthly evening for adults. No RSVP needed; food and beverages available for purchase.

Sponsored by Our Lady's Immaculate Heart Catholic Church.

Feel free to arrive early to eat and socialize.

The King's Head Room
Magee's Irish Pub
1610 SW Main St.
Ankeny, IA 50023

Upcoming speakers:

October 25
Maggie DeWitte
Executive Director,
Pulse Life Advocates

November 22
Fr. Ambrose Ladu Daniel
Associate Pastor of OLIH

ST. MARY • GUTHRIE CENTER

Student Mass

OCTOBER 18, 2026



We invite our parish families to join us for a special Student Mass on Sunday, October 18.

Our students will take an active role in the celebration of Mass by serving in the various ministry roles.

Help us encourage and support our young people as they share their time and talents with our parish community!

OUR PARISHES



ST. CECILIA
220 N 1st St.
Panora, IA 50216



ST. MARY
603 Main St.
Guthrie Center, IA 50115



ST. PATRICK
214 Prairie St.
Bayard, IA 50029

Dear Parishioners,

With the November elections coming up, I know many of us have strong feelings. Some of you are Democrats, some are Republicans, some are independents, and some might feel frustrated with all the choices!

We hear a lot of heated discussions about the economy, rising prices, immigration, war and peace, human life, marriage and family, religious freedom, caring for the poor and elderly, and many other issues. These are not just political topics. **They affect real people and are connected to the dignity of every human life.**

The Diocese of Des Moines has shared the Iowa Catholic Conference's new 2026 Faithful Citizenship material to help Catholics get ready to vote. The Church does not tell us which candidate or party to choose. Instead, it asks us to do something more challenging: to form our consciences with the guidance of Jesus Christ and the Church's teaching.

One helpful way to think about this is by using a consistent ethic of life.

Our Catholic faith teaches us to see the God-given dignity of every person throughout their life. A consistent ethic of life does not mean every issue is morally the same or equally important. It does mean we should not let any political party or our own preferences decide which lives and concerns matter most. This idea also connects well with what we have been learning in our Virtues class.

- We have studied **Prudence**, which asks us: What is the true good?
- We have just studied **Justice**, which asks: What do I owe to God and my neighbor?
- Now we are learning about **Fortitude**, which asks: Will I do what is right, even when it is hard?

The other virtues also have lessons for us during an election season.

- **Temperance** helps us manage our anger, fear, and strong political feelings.
- **Faith** reminds us that our deepest trust should be in God, not in any candidate or political party.
- **Hope** reminds us that no matter the outcome of an election, good or bad, God has the final say.
- **Charity** asks us perhaps the hardest question: Can I keep loving my neighbor, even if they vote differently than I do?

So maybe one of the most important questions to ask before voting is this:

Am I letting my Catholic faith shape my politics, or am I letting my politics shape my Catholic faith?

Faithful Catholics might come to different decisions about certain candidates and policies. We should be able to talk about these differences without doubting each other's faith, intelligence, motives, or love for our country.

So I encourage you to pray, learn what the Church really teaches, read the Faithful Citizenship material, look closely at the candidates and issues, form your conscience, and then vote.

If you find these questions interesting, come join us for our Virtues class on Thursday evenings at 7:00 p.m. You do not have to have attended the earlier classes. We will review what we have covered and keep learning together how God's grace and the virtues can help us make good and faithful choices, not just during elections, but also in our families, relationships, work, parish, and daily lives.

After the election is over, whether we are Democrat, Republican, or independent, we will still come together at the same altar, receive the same Lord, and hear the same command:

Love God and love your neighbor.

That might be where faithful citizenship truly begins.

Fr. Ray

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Chicken Dinner

SUNDAY, NOV 1 • 11 AM TO 3:00 PM
ST. ALBERT CATHOLIC SCHOOL



Join Corpus Christi Parish for their upcoming chicken dinner — featuring Staley's Broasted Chicken.

Menu includes:

- Staley's chicken
- Mashed potatoes & gravy
- Stuffing
- Green beans
- Corn
- Coleslaw
- Bread
- Dessert

Tickets on sale at the door or avoid the lines and buy in advance. Contact the Parish Office at 712-323-2916.

Ages 9 & up: \$15

Ages 4 - 8: \$10

Ages 3 & under: Free

Our 12-Week Journey

Join us on Thursday evenings at St. Mary's Parish Hall at 7 PM.

OCT. 15 — FORTITUDE

Doing what's right when it costs me.

OCT. 22 — TEMPERANCE

Who's in charge — me or my desires?

OCT. 29 — FAITH

Learning to see through God's eyes.

NOV. 5 — HOPE

What keeps me going when life gets difficult?

NOV. 12 — CHARITY

Learning to love like Christ.

NOV. 19 — THE BATTLE WITHIN

Why do I keep doing this?

NOV. 26 — THANKSGIVING

No class

DEC. 3 — A RULE OF LIFE

How do I make change last?



WEEKLY OFFERINGS

ST. CECILIA
\$2,318

ADA Balance due: \$3,921

ST. MARY
\$2,347

ST. PATRICK
\$920



HAPPY HOUR
5:00-6:00PM

LIVE BAND
BURNIN' SENSATIONS

TICKETS - \$50

LITTLE CHARGER EARLY LEARNING CENTER

Annual Fundraiser

2026

A LITTLE Heat.
A LOT OF Heart.

SUPPORTING BIG DREAMS AND BRIGHT FUTURES

Saturday, November 7th

EVENTS CENTER
GUTHRIE CENTER, IA



DINNER
6:00 PM

AUCTION ITEMS
BASKETS, SILENT AUCTION,
& LIVE AUCTION

PURCHASE AT GC STATE BANK
OR
VENMO @LittleCharger
(PLEASE PUT LC FUNDRAISER +
NAMES OF ATTENDEES)

UPCOMING SCHEDULE



WEEKLY CALENDAR

SATURDAY

4:00 PM Confessions • Bayard
4:05 PM Rosary • Bayard (First Saturday)
4:15 PM Divine Mercy • Bayard
4:30 PM Mass • Bayard

SUNDAY

7:30 AM Confessions • Panora
7:45 AM Divine Mercy • Panora
8:00 AM Mass • Panora
9:00-10:00 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
3:30 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



MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY

Oct. 10 • 4:30 PM • Mass for the People

SUNDAY

Oct. 11 • 8:00 AM • Ken Eike
Oct. 11 • 9:30 AM • Gary Simmotorich

TUESDAY

Oct. 13 • 5:30 PM • Crosier family

WEDNESDAY

Oct. 14 • 8:00 AM • Darlene Finnegan

THURSDAY

Oct. 15 • 8:00 AM • Clem & Marion Fowler & family

FRIDAY

Oct. 16 • 8:00 AM • Spencer Sloss

SATURDAY

Oct. 17 • 4:30 PM • Matt Murrane

SUNDAY

Oct. 18 • 8:00 AM • Marianne Favaro
Oct. 18 • 9:30 AM • Patrick & Kyrsten Ahrens

TUESDAY

Oct. 20 • 5:30 PM • Crosier Family

WEDNESDAY

Oct. 21 • 8:00 AM • Dave & Cindy Ahrens

THURSDAY

Oct. 22 • 8:00 AM • Paul & Agatha Sailer

FRIDAY

Oct. 23 • 8:00 AM • Dorothy Finnegan



PARISH CONTACTS

Fr. Ray Higgins / Rectory
641-747-2569
Contact Father for Sacramental emergencies

Parish Office
641-747-3843

Deacon Dennis Patrick
641-757-0851
deacondennisp@gmail.com

Business Manager
Geri Thompson
stcstmstp@netins.net

Parish Secretary
Misean Hernandez
stmpcsecretary@outlook.com
Email bulletin announcements by 8 PM Tuesday.

Religious Education
Jamie Terwilliger
stmpcdre@gmail.com

Cemetery Groundskeeper & Coordinator
Justin Downing
515-250-8988

Sacraments
Contact the Rectory in advance for marriage & baptism arrangements

Chaplet of Divine Mercy

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.