

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

July 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 by 8PM Tuesday.



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



## PARISH announcements

### Summer Mass time added!!!

We will be starting a 6:30PM Mass time at St. Cecilia's in Panora during the summer.

### ADULT FAITH SESSION DATES:

Aug 20 - 6:30 p.m. at St. Cecilia

All parishioners welcome to attend.

### Laptop computer needed at St. Cecilia

Do you have a functional laptop with a SD disc port that you would be willing to donate to St. Cecilia?

If so, please contact Paul Nagel at 515-480-9894 or Connie Ziller at 515-371-6135.



Mass intention envelopes can be found in the back of church. Please fill in the requested information, add your donation and place the envelope in the collection plate.



## COUNCIL meetings

St. Cecilia - Thursday, August 7th at 6:30 PM

St. Patrick - Tuesday, August 12th at 6:30 PM

St. Mary - Wednesday, August 13th at 6:00 PM

# FROM THE DESK OF

## Fr. Ray Higgins



Dear Parish Family,

I had a nice time with my mother, Jeanine Holland, and Fr. Dan Kirby in Branson, MO. We were able to enjoy the scenery, the Branson Belle Showboat, the biblical story of David at the Sight & Sound Theater, and, of course, the long-standing show Presley's Country Jubilee. The summer seems to be passing by incredibly fast, and I hope you are enjoying it with family and friends.

This Sunday's readings present a profound truth: God is not distant, but deeply relational, attentive, and responsive to our needs. He listens to our prayers, even when we don't fully understand what we're asking for. He desires that we approach Him with the confidence of children who trust their Father.

### Essential Message of the Readings

**Genesis 18:20–32** shows Abraham persistently interceding on behalf of Sodom. Though the city is sinful, Abraham appeals to God's mercy, and God listens with patience and compassion.

**Colossians 2:12–14** reminds us that through baptism, we were buried with Christ and raised to new life. Our sins nailed to the cross, and we now live as forgiven children of God.

In **Luke 11:1–13**, Jesus teaches the Our Father and exhorts us to ask, seek, and knock. He compares God to a loving Father who desires to give the Holy Spirit to those who ask.

### Why This Matters

Prayer is not magic, but rather a relationship and formulas don't manipulate God; He responds to hearts that trust Him. Jesus reveals that even when we don't receive exactly what we asked for, the Father gives us what is needed. One of the greatest gifts we receive is the Holy Spirit, the very presence of God who strengthens, guides, and transforms us.

Too often, we give up on prayer because we don't "get what we want." These readings remind us that we are called not to "transactional prayer," where we seek something by praying and promising something to obtain it. God has spoken about the importance of persistence in prayer, but let's remember that worship and prayer, above all, are "transformational"—prayer that aligns our hearts with God's will.

A heartfelt thank you to Mary Jane Carothers for sharing her recent pilgrimage to Lourdes with the Adult Education Class. Mary Jane's witness to God's presence along her journey reminded those in attendance that God continues to walk with us, even in unexpected places.

In Christ's peace,

Fr. Ray Higgins

# UPCOMING events



HEARTLAND FOR KIDS presents a benefit concert for **MARY'S MEALS**

**JASPER WINERY**  
Thursday, August 28 6:00-9:00  
2400 George Flagg Pkwy, Des Moines, IA 50321

Enjoy a fun evening with Nashville musicians Phoenix Mendoza and Josh Leo and Kitty Steadman at Jasper Winery while raising money for Mary's Meals. Any monetary donation will help the world's most vulnerable children receive an education and provide them with enough to eat. Bring a friend to have fun and make a difference. Food sponsored by the Knights of Columbus will be available for a free will donation.

**\$25.20**  
FEEDS A CHILD FOR THE ENTIRE SCHOOL YEAR

MARY'S MEALS is currently feeding 2.49 million children in 20 of the poorest countries in the world. The life-changing meals they provide make it possible for hungry children to come to school and give them the energy they need to concentrate and participate in class.

To donate online please go to: [www.marysmealsusa.org](http://www.marysmealsusa.org)

KITTY STEADMAN JMW LAMAR Willie Farrel MC

**MARRIED COUPLES.** Give your marriage a well-deserved vacation. Plan to go on a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend and come back with a marriage that is refreshed and full of energy! Our next weekend is September 12-14 in Dubuque.

For more information call Denise and Greg at (563)920-9419 or visit



**AL-ANON START UP 2025  
TUESDAYS 7PM (BACK DOOR)  
AT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
119 E. MAIN ST. PANORA, IA**

Al-Anon is a mutual support program for people whose lives have been affected by someone else's drinking. By sharing common experiences and applying the Al-Anon principles, families and friends of alcoholics can bring positive changes to their individual situations, whether or not the alcoholic admits the existence of a drinking problem or seeks help. Leave your name, phone and email address.  
Emily 641-332-2778

## 3-Day Silent Directed Ignatian Retreats



### FALL & WINTER DATES

Thurs-Sun Oct 23 - 26, 2025

Thurs-Sun Dec 4 - 7, 2025

Thurs-Sun Jan 22 - 25, 2026



Creighton University  
Retreat Center

The cost is \$400 for room, all meals, and private sessions. A non-refundable deposit of \$75 would be requested at registration.

If you have been on retreats before and looking for a more personal retreat experience, consider one of the dates below. These retreats start with check-in between 4:00-5:00pm for the 6pm supper and conclude at 3pm the final day. You would be assigned a spiritual director who you would meet with each day. Directors are guided with the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius of Loyola.

Register at  
[creighton.edu/retreatcenter/scheduleofretreats](http://creighton.edu/retreatcenter/scheduleofretreats)  
or scan code.

Terri Lou Duggan  
Melodie Anstey  
Creighton University  
Retreat Center  
712-778-2466  
[curc@creighton.edu](mailto:curc@creighton.edu)



## SILENT IGNATIAN RETREAT FOR WOMEN

### To Be Filled - A Lenten Preached Retreat

Creighton University  
Retreat Center  
March 12 - 15, 2026

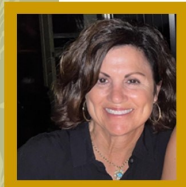
God wants nothing more than to fill what's un-filled in our lives. Our relationships, jobs, ministries, life circumstances and hopes can be areas we feel are lacking something. Even our faith can feel like a basket holding only fragments of bread. We long for an ever deepening fulfillment in God, yet we don't know the way to that.

*To the deeper. To the fuller.*

During this retreat we will walk with Jesus and encounter Him where we most need Him, where we most miss Him, yet don't expect Him to be. We invite you to enter into the silence of this Ignatian Preached Retreat for Women.

Bring your baskets—unfilled as they are—and give yourself and God this uninterrupted time.

There will be a series of retreat talks, opportunities for spiritual direction, the sacrament of reconciliation, daily mass and much prayer and rest alongside Jesus. Come! This Lenten rest stop is awaiting you.



Mona Finocchiaro Snider, originally from Omaha, is a Spiritual Director in the Ignatian tradition. In 2015, Mona received her Certification in Spiritual Direction from Creighton University. She has spent two decades serving at the Ignatian Spirituality Center of Kansas City as a director of the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius, a formator of prayer guides, supervisor and retreat giver. She loves witnessing the grace of God working in others and accompanying those who seek a deeper closeness with Christ in their life.



The retreat cost is based on single occupancy and includes meals—\$425

Check in Thursday between 4:00 - 5:00 p.m.

The retreat concludes Sunday at 2:30 p.m.

A non-refundable deposit of \$85 is requested at registration. Register by scanning the code or on-line at [curc.retreatportal.com/events](http://curc.retreatportal.com/events)



Creighton University Retreat Center  
16493 Contrail Ave | Griswold, IA 51535 | 712.778.2466 | [curc@creighton.edu](mailto:curc@creighton.edu)



## 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  
6:30 PM Mass, Panora  
7:30 PM Confessions, Panora

### 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., July 26 at 4:30 PM — David & Rita Halsey  
Sat., July 26 at 6:30 PM — Mass for the People  
Sun., July 27 at 8:00 AM — Lansink Family living & deceased  
Sun., July 27 at 9:30 AM — Len Snyder Family  
Tues., July 29 at 5:30 PM — Kenny Ludwig  
Wed., July 30 at 8:00 AM — Living & deceased members of  
Bauler Family  
Thurs., July 31 at 8:00 AM — Delphine Demers  
Fri., August 1 at 8:00 AM — Lucille Sewell

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Sat., August 2 at 4:30 PM — Seidl Family  
Sat., August 2 at 6:30 PM — Mass for the People  
Sun., August 3 at 8:00 AM — Families of Dan Donahey and  
Dr. James and Barbara Ward  
Sun., August 3 at 9:30 AM — George, Miranda & Maritza Holland  
Tues., August 5 at 5:30 PM — Fr. Higgins & Higgins family  
Wed., August 6 at 8:00 AM — Delphine Demers  
Thurs., August 7 at 8:00 AM — Living & deceased members of  
Galles Family  
Fri., August 8 at 8:00 AM — Rita Halsey

### 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— \$1,961  
ADA Goal \$24,220 ADA Balance Due \$8,265

### St. Mary Weekly Offering

Sunday weekly offering— \$1,047  
ADA Goal \$15,849 ADA Balance Due \$3,539

### St. Patrick Weekly Offering

Sunday weekly offering— \$857  
ADA Goal \$11,272 ADA Balance Due \$4,142