

THE CATHOLIC CHURCHES OF  
**ST. CECILIA • ST. MARY • ST. PATRICK**  
October 19th & 20th 2024

## 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:**

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### **Director of Religious Education:**

Jamie Carlson- stmpcdre@gmail.com

### **Cemetery Grounds Keeper and Coordinator**

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Justin Downing - (515) 250-8988

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## PARISH announcements



### **Adult Faith Formation - Save the Dates!**

Wednesday, November 6 at St. Mary

Wednesday, December 4 at St. Cecilia

All sessions begin at 6:30PM

**Holy Hour with Exposition and Benediction** will be offered by Fr Ray, Deacon Dennis and Deacon Dick in November as follows:

Thursday, Nov 7 at 6:30 p.m. at St. Mary

Thursday, Nov 14 at 6:30 p.m. at St. Cecilia

Thursday, Nov 21 at 6:30 p.m. at St. Patrick

Opportunity for confession will be available each time.



October is the month of the Rosary, the Rosary will be said prior to Mass

### **HELP needed— St Cecilia's**

Meals on Wheels (formerly Congregate Meals) in Panora has been revived and need to have volunteers who can help deliver. We deliver for one week, next time being December 2-9. We have to drive to Sneakers Café in Guthrie Center to get the meals and the list of people in Panora; then deliver to residents and return container to Sneakers. Please contact Page Arganbright at 641.757.0119, if available to help.



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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

# Grow Spiritually!

## WWW.FORMED.ORG



Content for everyone - Adults & Children. Watch alone or as a family!

Membership for this site has been provided by the Parish.  
It's **FREE** to you and your family - No catches!

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August 10, 2025

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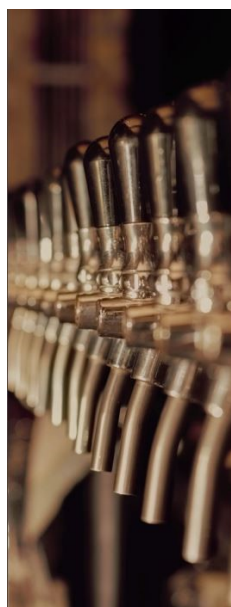
- 1 Go to [www.FORMED.org](http://www.FORMED.org)
- 2 Click Sign Up
- 3 Select I Belong to a Parish or Organization
- 4 Enter your zip code to find our Church
- 5 Enter your name and email

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If you have blocked ads, you may need to deactivate this feature while using FORMED.org.



TAP INTO  
**FAITH**

A free Sunday night series of speakers on the 4th Sunday of each month at  
**Fenders Brewing**  
212 W Van Dorn St | Polk City

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 27**  
**7-8:30pm**

#### "Spiritual Warfare"

Fr. Dave Fleming, the diocesan exorcist, will talk to us about how to fight the spiritual battles in our lives.

7-7:30 Social  
7:30-8:30 Speaker



### Join Spirit Catholic Radio for a Biblical Theology Conference in Partnership with the St. Paul Center!

Hear from Dr. Scott and Kimberly Hahn, Dr. John Bergsma, and Dr. Brueninger at Christ the King Catholic Church in Omaha.

Tickets are \$35 and are available at [spiritcatholicradio.com](http://spiritcatholicradio.com). Come to hear the Friday evening talks, the Saturday talks, or however many your schedule allows!

Friday, November 8<sup>th</sup> from 7:00 - 9:30 PM or Saturday, November 9<sup>th</sup> 8:15 AM - 4:30 PM. Lunches are available for pre-purchase at \$11.

## UPCOMING events



### 3 Day Women's Ignatian Retreat

Come away to the silence. Renew and center yourself before the holiday preparations begin. Steep yourself in God's love as you contemplate resting in Him, "For He is Gentle and Humble of Heart". Lori Stevens will present reflections for you to sink into a deeper conversation with God through Ignatian Contemplation. This 3-day silent retreat offers abundant time for enjoying the rhythms of quiet reflection and prayer, wandering in nature, and journaling. There will also be opportunities to celebrate the Eucharist, meet with a spiritual director and participate in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Meals as well as the rest of the days will be in prayerful silence. Held November 7-10, 2024 at the Creighton University Retreat Center near Griswold, IA one hour east of Omaha. Retreat cost \$425, beginning Thursday with check-in 4:00-5:00 p.m. concluding Sunday at 2:30. Registration required at [Creighton.edu/CURC](http://Creighton.edu/CURC) or scan the QR code:



### Our World Needs Prayer.

Join Fellow Iowans to Pray A Monthly Rosary. Iowa State Capitol - West Side Steps. Third Sunday of Every Month in 2024 at 1:30 PM.

Time/Details: 1:30 PM at the Capitol on Sunday, October 20, 2024 to pray for our country.

Location: Iowa State Capitol, 1007 E Grand Ave, Des Moines, IA 50319, West Side Steps

Join Fellow Iowans to Pray A Rosary at The High Trestle Bridge & St. Malachy's. Registration, Rosary Walk, Reconciliation, Mass, & Adoration.

Time/Details: 7AM - 12PM on Saturday, October 26, 2024. Registration, Rosary Walk, Travel to Mass, Reconciliation & Mass at St. Malachy's, & Adoration.

Locations:

Grant's Wood Parking Lot: 2335 Qf Lane, Madrid, IA 50156

St. Malachy's: 405 Gerald Street, Madrid, IA 50156



## COUNCIL meetings

St. Cecilia - Thursday, October 24th at 6:30 PM



LET'S "RAKE IN SOME BLESSINGS!" St. Mary's Church landscape clean-up day will be October 27th (the last Sunday of the month) directly following Mass. Please bring: power or manual hedge trimmers, chainsaws, blowers, rakes and large garbage bags. Please join us in making the grounds around God's house beautiful while raking in extra blessings doing it! Questions or to RSVP text or call Cindy @641-740-1100

## HOLY DAY mass schedule



### ALL SAINTS

Thursday, Oct 31 - 6:30 p.m. at St. Cecilia

Friday, Nov 1 - 8:00 a.m. at St. Mary

Friday, Nov 1 - 6:30 p.m. at St. Patrick

**ALL SOULS** - will incorporate into the weekend Masses, we plan to read names of those deceased in 2024 and have candles carried in for each

### THANKSGIVING

Thursday Nov 28 - 9:00 a.m. at St. Mary

### IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Dec 8 falls on Sunday this year, Sunday observance takes precedence but one Mass will be offered on Monday, Dec 9 - 6:30 p.m. at St. Mary

### CHRISTMAS EVE

Tuesday, Dec 24 - 4:00 p.m. at St. Cecilia

Tuesday, Dec 24 - 5:45 p.m. at St. Mary

Tuesday, Dec 24 - 7:15 p.m. at St. Patrick

### CHRISTMAS DAY

Wednesday, Dec 25 - 9:00 a.m. at St. Cecilia

### SOLEMNITY OF MARY

Tuesday, Dec 31 - 5:30 p.m. at St. Patrick

Wednesday, Jan 1 - 9:00 a.m. at St. Mary



## 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  
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### Monday

No Mass

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3:30 - 4:30 PM Adoration, Panora  
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5:30 PM Mass, Bayard

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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 designation of offering in the memo line.

## MASS intentions



Sat Oct 19th at 4:30 PM - Anita Sheehan  
Sun Oct 20th at 8:00 AM - Ron Schafer  
Sun Oct 20th at 9:30 AM - Sarah Clark  
Tues Oct 22nd at 5:30 PM - Jeremy Biondi  
Wed Oct 23rd at 8:00 AM - George & Miranda Holland  
Thurs Oct 24th at 8:00 AM - Orville Leinen  
Fri Oct 25th at 8:00 AM - Viola Rohe

Sat Oct 26th at 4:30 PM - James Walstrom  
Sun Oct 27th at 8:00 AM - Eddie Dorsett & Family  
Sun Oct 27th at 9:30 AM - Patrick & Kyrsten Ahrens  
Tues Oct 29th at 5:30 PM - Jeanne Provenza  
Wed Oct 30th at 8:00 AM - Sue Seeman  
Thurs Oct 31st at 8:00 AM - Living members of Leon & Donna Family  
Fri Nov 1st at 8:00 AM - Angelica Paron O'Brien



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.

Fall is a beautiful season full of color and crisp fresh air. A Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience is like autumn because it's a weekend full of fresh air, new beginnings, and a time to rejoice in the beauty of your marriage. It's a great time to rekindle communication and enjoy some time away. For more information call: Greg and Denise at (563) 608-3305 or register at [wwme.org](http://wwme.org). Our upcoming weekend is November 8-10 in Holstein, Iowa.



## WEEKLY offerings



St. Cecilia Weekly Offering - \$1,498<sup>00</sup>  
ADA Goal \$22,535 ADA Balance Due \$5,300  
St. Mary Weekly Offering - \$1,594<sup>00</sup>  
ADA Goal \$16,169 ADA Balance Due PAID  
St. Patrick Weekly Offering - \$588<sup>00</sup>  
ADA Goal \$11,945 ADA Balance Due \$1,775



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October 26th & 27th 2024

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ADA Goal \$22,535 ADA Balance Due \$5,300

St. Mary Weekly Offering - \$956<sup>08</sup>

ADA Goal \$16,169 ADA Balance Due PAID

St. Patrick Weekly Offering - \$741<sup>00</sup>

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Sunday, December 8th, 2024  
First United Methodist Church  
405 Prairie St., Guthrie Center



## MASS intentions



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

November 2nd & 3rd 2024

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### November– Food Drive

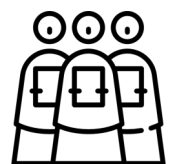
St. Cecelia's and St. Mary's are collecting canned goods the entire month of November for the food pantry needs.



Please encourage your children to bring canned goods and boxed goods to help families in need this holiday season.

### Guthrie Center Association of Churches 2024 Sound of Christmas Concert

Sunday, December 8th, 2024  
First United Methodist Church  
405 Prairie St., Guthrie Center



# FROM THE DESK OF

## Fr. Ray Higgins



Dear Parish Family,

First, I want to thank you for your prayers and patience while I attended to the needs of my aunt Valerie in Arvada, Colorado, and my brother Scott in Minnesota. I am happy to share that both are doing well.

As we journey through the liturgical year, we come to the final weeks of Ordinary Time. This Sunday's readings invite us to reflect on the fundamental truths of our faith.

In our first reading (Dt 6:2-6), we are reminded of the importance of God's Word in our lives. The Shema, a central Jewish prayer, emphasizes the singular nature of God and the call to love Him with all our heart, soul, and strength. This passage urges us to internalize God's Word, to meditate on it day and night, and to live it out in our daily lives.

The Gospel of Mark (12:28b-34) presents the greatest commandment: to love God with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength, and to love our neighbor as ourselves. This commandment is the foundation of Christian morality and the core of our relationship with God and others.

As we remember our loved ones who have died, we turn to God in prayer, seeking His mercy and grace. The Book of the Dead, placed in the back of the Church, provides an opportunity for you to add names to honor their memory and entrust them to God's loving care. These names will be placed on the Altar as we offer prayers for them at Mass.

Please take a moment to review the upcoming Solemnities and Feast Days on the parish bulletin calendar. As we approach the Advent season, let us prepare our hearts to welcome the coming of our Lord. May the grace of God continue to bless us all.

Sincerely,

Fr. Ray

### St. Lawrence Dinner

November 3, 2024 5:00 PM

**Location:** St Michael's Catholic Church, 2001 College Place, Harlan, IA 51537

The St. Lawrence Dinner offers an opportunity for men 30 years or older who would like to investigate the Permanent Diaconate. The men, and their wives if married, will have a chance to ask questions in a relaxed atmosphere, learn more about life as a deacon and hear other share their vocation stories. Deacon Jim Houston, Director of the Permanent Diaconate, along with other deacons will be present to interact, support and encourage the men and their wives as they follow the Lord's call. For more information or to register please visit [www.dmdiocese.org/StLawrence](http://www.dmdiocese.org/StLawrence)

Questions? Contact the Vocation Office at [vocations@dmdiocese.org](mailto:vocations@dmdiocese.org) or (515) 237-5034.





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Friday, November 8<sup>th</sup> from 7:00 - 9:30 PM or Saturday, November 9<sup>th</sup> 8:15 AM - 4:30 PM. Lunches are available for pre-purchase at \$11.



### **Catholic Radio Art Contest**

Beginning **October 1st, 2024**, Spirit Catholic Radio will begin taking submissions to our annual Art Contest! Returning this year, the winner's masterpieces will be turned into prayer cards! These cards will be available at all Spirit Catholic Radio events throughout the year and given to all of the Catholic elementary schools and participating Faith Formation classes in our listening area. Find details regarding participation in the 2024 Art Contest <https://spiritcatholicradio.com/art2024/>

We would love for your students to be involved! It's a creative and fun way to learn more about the life of Christ and to grow in relationship with the Blessed Mother! The winning artists will receive prizes!

The theme for the 2024 contest is **The Luminous Mysteries of the Rosary**. Your artists can pick between the two mysteries for their grade range below:

- **K - 2nd Grade:** The Baptism of the Lord - or - The Wedding at Cana
- **3rd - 5th Grade:** The Transfiguration - or - The Holy Rosary
- **6th - 8th Grade:** The Proclamation of the Kingdom - or - The Institution of the Eucharist



## HOLY DAY mass schedule



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Thurs Nov 7th at 8:00 AM - Orville Leinen  
Fri Nov 8th at 8:00 AM - Daniel Eric O'Brien  
Sat Nov 9th at 4:30 PM - Walstrom Family  
Sun Nov 10th at 8:00 AM - Deceased members of Leon & Donna Family  
Sun Nov 10th at 9:30 AM - Paul & Agatha Sailor  
Tues Nov 12th at 5:30 PM - Rose Marie McAlister  
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ACH- \$860  
ADA Goal \$11,945 ADA Balance Due PAID

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

November 9th & 10th 2024

## 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:**

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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



### **Adult Faith Formation - Save the Dates!**

Wednesday, December 4 at St. Cecilia

All sessions begin at 6:30PM

**Holy Hour with Exposition and Benediction** will be offered by Fr Ray, Deacon Dennis and Deacon Dick in November as follows:

Thursday, Nov 14 at 6:30 p.m. at St. Cecilia

Thursday, Nov 21 at 6:30 p.m. at St. Patrick

Opportunity for confession will be available each time.

### **November– Food Drive**

St. Cecilia's and St. Mary's are collecting canned goods the entire month of November for the food pantry needs.

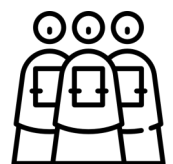


Please encourage your children to bring canned goods and boxed goods to help families in need this holiday season.

### **Guthrie Center Association of Churches 2024 Sound of Christmas Concert**

Sunday, December 8th, 2024

First United Methodist Church  
405 Prairie St., Guthrie Center



# FROM THE DESK OF

## Fr. Ray Higgins



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

This past week, our nation experienced intense focus on our differences. Elections have a way of doing that, don't they? As we gather this Sunday, I invite you to pause, breathe, and consider the incredible blessing of peace—especially in our relationships. The recent elections may have stirred up discussions, differing opinions, and perhaps even frustration. But let us remember that the strength of our relationships matters most, far more than political views or affiliations.

Jesus calls us peacemakers, building bridges rather than walls and cultivating the love God first showed us. So this week, I encourage you to reach out to a friend, neighbor, or family member, regardless of any differences, and remind them how much they mean to you. Let's model Christ's love and unity, focusing on what unites us rather than what divides us.

### **Immaculate Conception - December 9, 2024**

The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, usually celebrated on December 8, is transferred to December 9. This year, the Church is making it a Holy Day of Obligation even though it falls on a Monday. Initially, I had scheduled only one Mass because it fell on Monday. This year, the Diocese is asking priests to make several options available. We will offer Mass on Sunday, December 8 at St. Patrick's at 6:30 pm, Monday morning, December 9 at St. Cecilia's at 8:00 am, and Monday Evening, December 9 at St. Mary's at 6:30 pm. Missing a Holy Day of Obligation carries the same weight of sin as it does for missing a Sunday Mass obligation.

### **Eucharistic Adoration**

There will be a chance for a Holy Hour during the next several Thursday evenings. We may also call it Eucharistic Adoration, which begins at 6:30 pm and ends around 7:30 pm. During that time, there will be an opportunity for those wishing to go to Confession.

As we continue this week, let's remember that relationships are more important than political ideology, honor holy days, and celebrate the gift of the Eucharist. These treasures sustain us, deepen our faith, and strengthen our relationships with God and each other.

Have a blessed week,

Fr Ray







## UPCOMING events

### What is the mass? Why does it matter?

This talk is for any man who wants to learn more or get more out of going to mass. The Church teaches that the Eucharist is both the source and the summit of Catholic life. One of Jesus' last acts before death was to celebrate the first mass. Many a martyr has died to defend the Eucharist. Nevertheless, statistics show that your average Catholic Sunday mass is short on male participation. For some reason, some men have trouble finding connection, meaning, and value in the Church. If you're one of those men, or you know one of those men, this talk is for you!

Details: Tim Glemkowski: Men and Mass

Date/Time: Wednesday, November 20, 2024; Doors open at 7:00 PM; Talk begins at 8:00 PM

Location: The Foundry: 111 S 11th Street, West Des Moines, IA 50265

Website - FORGE: <https://myforge.org/event/men-and-mass/>

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Beginning **October 1st, 2024**, Spirit Catholic Radio will begin taking submissions to our annual Art Contest! Returning this year, the winner's masterpieces will be turned into prayer cards! These cards will be available at all Spirit Catholic Radio events throughout the year and given to all of the Catholic elementary schools and participating Faith Formation classes in our listening area. Find details regarding participation in the 2024 Art Contest <https://spiritcatholicradio.com/art2024/>

We would love for your students to be involved! It's a creative and fun way to learn more about the life of Christ and to grow in relationship with the Blessed Mother! The winning artists will receive prizes!

The theme for the 2024 contest is **The Luminous Mysteries of the Rosary**. Your artists can pick between the two mysteries for their grade range below:

- **K - 2nd Grade:** The Baptism of the Lord - or - The Wedding at Cana
- **3rd - 5th Grade:** The Transfiguration - or - The Holy Rosary
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## HOLY DAY mass schedule



### THANKSGIVING

Thursday Nov 28 - 9:00AM at St. Mary

### IMMACULATE CONCEPTION (CORRECTION)

Sunday, Dec 8 - 6:30PM at St. Patrick

Monday, Dec 9 - 8:00AM at St. Cecilia

Monday, Dec 9 - 6:30PM at St. Mary

### CHRISTMAS EVE

Tuesday, Dec 24 - 4:00PM at St. Cecilia

Tuesday, Dec 24 - 5:45PM at St. Mary

Tuesday, Dec 24 - 7:15PM at St. Patrick

### CHRISTMAS DAY

Wednesday, Dec 25 - 9:00AM at St. Cecilia

### SOLEMNITY OF MARY

Tuesday, Dec 31 - 5:30PM at St. Patrick

Wednesday, Jan 1 - 9:00PM at St. Mary

## CATHOLIC YOUTH CAMP



### GROW IN FAITH

Be immersed in the beauty of the Catholic faith and live the adventure of His call by diving in deep with daily Mass, prayer, faith programming, speakers, and small groups!



### BUILD FRIENDSHIPS

Laughter, new stories, and friendships that will last a lifetime can all be found at a week of CYC! Come with friends from home or make some new ones at CYC!



### CREATE MEMORIES

Where life-changing peace meets transforming joy the memories that are made can be unforgettable! Get excited to make wonderful memories this summer!



**CYC 2025 REGISTRATION  
OPENS 11/9 AT NOON!**

VISIT [STMCCENTER.COM](http://STMCCENTER.COM) TO LEARN MORE!





## WEEKLY calendar

### Saturday

4:00 PM Confessions, Bayard  
4:05 PM First Saturday Rosary, Bayard  
4:15 PM Divine Mercy, Bayard  
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### Sunday

7:30 AM Confessions, Panora  
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Offerings can go directly to the general fund, the building fund, cemetery or ADA.

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

## MASS intentions



Sat Nov 9th at 4:30 PM - Walstrom Family

Sun Nov 10th at 8:00 AM - Deceased members of Leon & Donna  
Family

Sun Nov 10th at 9:30 AM - Paul & Agatha Sailor

Tues Nov 12th at 5:30 PM - Rose Marie McAlister

Wed Nov 13th at 8:00 AM - Jeremy Biondi

Thurs Nov 14th at 8:00 AM - Eddie Dorsett & Family

Fri Nov 15th at 8:00 AM - Viola Rohe

Sat Nov 16th at 4:30 PM - David & Rita Halsey

Sun Nov 17th at 8:00 AM - Sue Seeman

Sun Nov 17th at 9:30 AM - Karen Fitzpatrick

Tues Nov 19th at 5:30 PM - James Walstrom

Wed Nov 20th at 8:00 AM - Deceased members of Leon & Donna  
Family

Thurs Nov 21st at 8:00 AM - Living members of Leon & Donna  
Family

Fri Nov 22nd at 8:00 AM - Rudolph & Gladys Haboda



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.

### 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 - \$2,075<sup>70</sup>

ADA Goal \$22,535 ADA Balance Due \$2,005

St. Mary Weekly Offering - \$1,551<sup>00</sup>

ADA Goal \$16,169 ADA Balance Due PAID

St. Patrick Weekly Offering - \$897<sup>00</sup>

ADA Goal \$11,945 ADA Balance Due PAID

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November 16th & 17th 2024

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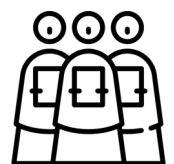


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# FROM THE DESK OF

## Fr. Ray Higgins



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The profound words of Mark 13:24-32 remind us of the significance of vigilance and preparedness in our spiritual lives. In this passage, Jesus speaks of the end times, urging us to be watchful and alert, for we do not know the day or hour of His return. He emphasizes that while the heavens and the earth may pass away, His words will endure forever. This call to watchfulness is not merely about anticipating a distant event; it is an invitation to live each day with a sense of purpose and readiness, recognizing the presence of Christ and loving others through our proper attitude and good works.

The season of Advent is just around the corner. It is a time of preparation for the coming of our Lord. It encourages us to focus on what truly matters—our relationship with God and our service to others. As we prepare for the Holy Days ahead, let us take this opportunity to deepen our faith and share the love of Christ with those around us.

I also want to remind everyone of our upcoming schedule. We will celebrate Thanksgiving Mass at St. Mary on November 28 at 9 am. The Thanksgiving Mass is a beautiful opportunity for families to unite in gratitude and reflection. Additionally, I encourage you to bring your children to experience a Holy Hour with Eucharistic Adoration, where they can profoundly encounter the Lord. Confessions will also be available, allowing spiritual renewal and grace.

Let us embrace this season with open hearts, ready to welcome Christ into our lives and to share His love with others.

In Christ's Peace,

Fr. Ray





## UPCOMING events

### What is the mass? Why does it matter?

This talk is for any man who wants to learn more or get more out of going to mass. The Church teaches that the Eucharist is both the source and the summit of Catholic life. One of Jesus' last acts before death was to celebrate the first mass. Many a martyr has died to defend the Eucharist. Nevertheless, statistics show that your average Catholic Sunday mass is short on male participation. For some reason, some men have trouble finding connection, meaning, and value in the Church. If you're one of those men, or you know one of those men, this talk is for you!

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Advent service and breakfast at 7AM

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Family

Thurs Nov 21st at 8:00 AM - Living members of Leon & Donna  
Family

Fri Nov 22nd at 8:00 AM - Rudolph & Gladys Haboda

Sat Nov 23rd at 4:30 PM - Crosier Family

Sun Nov 24th at 8:00 AM - Orville & Dorothy Nemmers Family

Sun Nov 24th at 9:30 AM - Don Reinhart

Tues Nov 26th at 5:30 PM - Deceased members of St. Patrick's  
Ladies Guild

Wed Nov 27th at 8:00 AM - Ward & Gen Gustafson

Thurs Nov 28th at 8:00 AM - Deceased members of Leon & Donna  
Family

Fri Nov 29th at 8:00 AM - George & Miranda Holland

### 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.

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ADA Goal \$11,945 ADA Balance Due PAID

THE CATHOLIC CHURCHES OF  
**ST. CECILIA • ST. MARY • ST. PATRICK**  
November 23rd & 24th 2024

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Thursday, Dec 5th at 6:30 p.m. at St. Mary

Thursday, Dec 12th at 6:30 p.m. at St. Cecilia

Thursday, Dec 19th at 6:30 p.m. at St. Patrick

Confession will be available each time.....  
a wonderful opportunity during Advent to prepare for Christmas.



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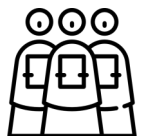
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Sunday, December 8th, 2024

First United Methodist Church

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# FROM THE DESK OF

## Fr. Ray Higgins



Dear Parishioners,

This weekend, we celebrate the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe. This feast calls us to a higher purpose in a world obsessed with self. Christ is King, not just of the universe but also of our hearts. His reign challenges us to look beyond "what's in it for me." His crown is not one of worldly power but of sacrifice and service.

As His followers, we reject the mindset of individualism and entitlement, choosing instead to align our lives with His teachings of humility, generosity, and sacrificial love. Looking into our hearts: Does Christ truly reign in our decisions and in how we treat others? This feast calls us to a more profound commitment. As we close the liturgical year, may we recommit ourselves to living as faithful citizens of Christ's Kingdom, reflecting His truth and love in all we do.

As we enter the season of Advent, I encourage you to prepare your hearts for the coming of our Savior through prayer and reconciliation. Join us for Holy Hour and Confessions at the following times and locations:

§ Tuesday, December 5, at 6:30 PM – St. Mary, Guthrie Center

§ Tuesday, December 12, at 6:30 PM – St. Cecilia

§ Tuesday, December 19, at 6:30 PM – St. Patrick, Bayard

These moments of prayer provide a chance to step away from the busyness of the holiday season and refocus on the true meaning of Christmas as a Holy season.

In gratitude for God's abundant blessings—for the harvest, for our families, and for the gift of faith—we will have a Thanksgiving Mass on Thursday, November 28, at 9:00 AM, in place of the usual Holy Hour. Let us gather as a parish family to give thanks and praise to God for His many gifts.

I will be away from December 5-8 for the State Knights of Columbus District Deputy Meeting in Des Moines. Fr. Mike Peters will graciously offer the weekend Masses during this time. Please extend a warm welcome to him.

As we honor Christ, our King, let us take to heart His call to live as servants of His Kingdom. May His love reign in our hearts and inspire us to live lives of mercy, truth, and generosity in a world that desperately needs His light.

Sincerely,

Fr. Ray



# PARISH Continued.....

## announcements

### St. Cecilia– CYC tuition

The Parish & Finance Council is offering 100% payment reimbursement for families who are interested in receiving financial assistance for their child/children to attend Catholic Youth Camp. To request a reimbursement, please submit proof of payment for summer of 2026 Catholic Youth Camps provided by St. Thomas More Center in Panama, IA.

Whether you pay in full, or choose another form of payment, once you have completed 100% of the payment for your child's camp experience, please forward your confirmation of payment email receipt from St. Thomas More Center Catholic Youth Camp to **Geri Thompson** at our **Parish Office**:  
[stcstmstp@netins.net](mailto:stcstmstp@netins.net)

If you have any questions, please email council representative Gale Arm-breht: [galegustafson@gmail.com](mailto:galegustafson@gmail.com)

### St Mary's RE

We would like to invite the parents of RE children 1st-8th grade to the upstairs of the Parish hall on December 4th at 5 PM to celebrate the season of advent. There will be desserts.

we would also love to recommend encouraging having your children bring an item to donate to the food pantry.

All 3rd-6th grade St Mary's RE kids had server training on Wednesday, November 20th during class. Please let us know if you would like your children put on the next server schedule.

You can contact Brenda Sloss or Miseen Hernandez in the office at [stmpcsecretary@outlook.com](mailto:stmpcsecretary@outlook.com)

# HOLY DAY

## mass schedule



### THANKSGIVING

Thursday Nov 28 - 9:00AM at St. Mary

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## MASS intentions



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Sun Nov 24th at 8:00 AM - Orville & Dorothy Nemmers Family  
Sun Nov 24th at 9:30 AM - Don Reinhart  
Tues Nov 26th at 5:30 PM - Deceased members of St. Patrick's  
Ladies Guild  
Wed Nov 27th at 8:00 AM - Ward & Gen Gustafson  
Thurs Nov 28th at 8:00 AM - Deceased members of Leon & Donna  
Family  
Fri Nov 29th at 8:00 AM - George & Miranda Holland  
Sat Nov 30th at 4:30 PM - Gerry & Leona Eischeid Family  
Sun Dec 1st at 8:00 AM - Art Ryan  
Sun Dec 1st at 9:30 AM - Beth Ruden  
Tues Dec 3rd at 5:30 PM - David & Rita Halsey  
Wed Dec 4th at 8:00 AM - Orville Leinen  
Thurs Dec 5th at 8:00 AM - Eddie Dorsett & Family  
Fri Dec 6th at 8:00 AM - Kirk Klohs

### 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 - \$1,325<sup>00</sup>  
ADA Goal \$22,535 ADA Balance Due \$2,005  
St. Mary Weekly Offering - \$1,044<sup>80</sup>  
ADA Goal \$16,169 ADA Balance Due PAID  
St. Patrick Weekly Offering - \$1,379<sup>00</sup>  
ADA Goal \$11,945 ADA Balance Due PAID

THE CATHOLIC CHURCHES OF  
**ST. CECILIA • ST. MARY • ST. PATRICK**  
November 30th & December 1st, 2024

## CONTACT information



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

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603 MAIN STREET  
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**ST. PATRICK PARISH**

214 PRAIRIE STREET  
BAYARD, IA 50029

## PARISH announcements



### **Adult Faith Formation - Save the Date!**

Wednesday, December 4 at St. Cecilia

All sessions begin at 6:30 PM

Holy Hour with Exposition and Benediction will be offered by Fr Ray, Deacon Dennis and Deacon Dick in December as follows:

Thursday, Dec 5 at 6:30 PM at St. Mary

Thursday, Dec 12 at 6:30 PM at St. Cecilia

Thursday, Dec 19 at 6:30 PM at St. Patrick

Confession will be available each time. This is a wonderful opportunity during Advent to prepare for Christmas.

### **Guthrie Center Association of Churches**

#### **2024 Sound of Christmas Concert**

Sunday, December 8

First United Methodist Church

405 Prairie St., Guthrie Center



# FROM THE DESK OF

## Fr. Ray Higgins



Dear Parish Family,

As we light the first candle of the Advent wreath, we begin a sacred season of hope that feels especially urgent in these troubled times. Advent is a time to prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ, who enters our brokenness to bring healing and peace.

Why does the season of Advent matter? Because our world desperately needs the light of Christ. Wars and conflicts rage across the globe, leaving countless lives in turmoil. Immigrants and refugees search for safety and dignity, while many of them face indifference. Closer to home, political divisions threaten our unity as a nation, and the notion of truth seems under attack. In the face of such challenges, Advent reminds us that our hope is not rooted in the solutions of this world but in a God who is with us—Emmanuel.

Jesus entered a world marked by suffering, division, and uncertainty. His birth in a humble stable was a profound sign that God meets us in the messiness of life, offering redemption and peace. Advent invites us to do the same: to turn to Him, to pray for our wounded world, and to become instruments of His love and truth.

On a personal note, I want to thank all of you who offered your kind words and prayers for my birthday. Your thoughtfulness is much appreciated.

As we prepare for Christmas, let us prepare our hearts through prayer and reconciliation. Eucharistic Adoration and Confessions will be available during the next three Thursdays, and you can go to Confession before each daily and weekend Mass (except at St. Mary's, where Confessions will follow Sunday Mass). [See the bulletin details]. These Sacramental moments with the Lord give us the strength to face the world's challenges with hearts full of hope and love.

During the season of Advent, pray for peace, unity, and courage to live as witnesses to the truth of the Gospel. May Christ guide us as we await His second coming and prepare to celebrate His birth at Christmas.

In Christ,

Fr. Ray

## PARISH announcements



### St. Cecilia – CYC tuition

The Parish & Finance Council is offering 100% payment reimbursement for families who are interested in receiving financial assistance for their child(ren) to attend Catholic Youth Camp. To request a reimbursement, please submit proof of payment for summer of 2026 Catholic Youth Camps provided by St. Thomas More Center in Panora, IA.

Whether you pay in full, or choose another form of payment, once you have completed 100% of the payment for your child's camp experience, please forward your confirmation of payment email receipt from St. Thomas More Center Catholic Youth Camp to **Geri Thompson** at our **Parish Office**:  
**stcstmstp@netins.net**

If you have any questions, please email council representative Gale Armbricht at  
**galegustafson@gmail.com**

### St Mary's Religious Education

Parents of RE children in 1st-8th grade, you are invited to join us for an advent celebration. Please meet us upstairs in the Parish hall on December 4 at 5 PM for activities and desserts.

We're also collecting pantry donations during the celebration. Please encourage your children to bring an item to donate to the food pantry.

All St Mary's RE students in 3rd-6th grade received altar server training during class on Wednesday, November 20. Please let us know if you would like your child(ren) added to the 2025 server schedule.

If interested, please contact Brenda Sloss or Misaan Hernandez in the office at  
**stmpcsecretary@outlook.com**

## HOLY DAY mass schedule



### IMMACULATE CONCEPTION (CORRECTION)

Sunday, Dec 8 – 6:30 PM at St. Patrick

Monday, Dec 9 – 8:00 AM at St. Cecilia

Monday, Dec 9 – 6:30 PM at St. Mary

### CHRISTMAS EVE

Tuesday, Dec 24 – 4:00 PM at St. Cecilia

Tuesday, Dec 24 – 5:45 PM at St. Mary

Tuesday, Dec 24 – 7:15 PM at St. Patrick

### CHRISTMAS DAY

Wednesday, Dec 25 – 9:00 AM at St. Cecilia

### SOLEMNITY OF MARY

Tuesday, Dec 31 – 5:30 PM at St. Patrick

### Wednesdays of Advent

Churches in Guthrie Center

Advent service and breakfast at 7 AM

December 4 – Christian and Presbyterian Church

December 11 – Methodist

December 18 – 7th Day Adventist (helped by Catholic Church)

### 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 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

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3:30 - 4:30 PM Adoration, Panora  
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Thurs Dec 5th at 8:00 AM - Eddie Dorsett & Family

Fri Dec 6th at 8:00 AM - Kirk Klohs

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Sun Dec 8th at 8:00 AM - Living members of Leon & Donna Family

Sun Dec 8th at 9:30 AM - Bill & Charlotte Holle

Tues Dec 10th at 5:30 PM - Rose Marie McAlister

Wed Dec 11th at 8:00 AM - Dilma Allen

Thurs Dec 12th at 8:00 AM - Deceased members of Leon & Donna  
Family

Fri Dec 13th at 8:00 AM - Caroline Noakes



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.

## WEEKLY offerings



St. Cecilia Weekly Offering—\$1,067<sup>00</sup>

St. Cecilia ACH—\$700<sup>00</sup>

ADA Goal \$22,535—Balance Due \$1,035<sup>00</sup>

St. Mary Weekly Offering—\$2,211<sup>00</sup>

St. Mary ACH—\$1,364<sup>00</sup>

St. Patrick Weekly Offering—\$2,460<sup>00</sup>

St. Patrick ACH—\$910<sup>00</sup>

THE CATHOLIC CHURCHES OF  
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December 7 & 8, 2024

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### Adult Faith Formation - Save the Dates!

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February 5 – 6:30 PM at St. Cecilia

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### Guthrie Center Association of Churches

#### 2024 Sound of Christmas Concert

Sunday, December 8

First United Methodist Church

405 Prairie St., Guthrie Center



# FROM THE DESK OF

## Fr. Ray Higgins



Dear Parishioners,

As we continue our Advent journey, let us prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ with hope and joy.

A special thank you to Fr. Mike Peters for assisting with the Masses this weekend in my absence. I am attending the State Knights of Columbus Meeting with all the District Deputies. Please keep the Knights in your prayers as we work to promote faith and charity across our state.

Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

This year, the Solemnity will be celebrated on Monday, December 9, and is a Holy Day of Obligation. We will offer an anticipatory Mass on Sunday evening to accommodate everyone. Please refer to the schedule in the bulletin for all Mass times.

Let us remain vigilant and prayerful as we prepare for the Lord's coming!

Sincerely,

Fr. Ray



### St. Cecilia's Christmas Program

On Sunday, December 15th the St. Cecilia's RE classes will be presenting their Christmas program after the 8:00 AM Mass.

Coffee and rolls will be served following the performance.

Please mark your calendars and plan on supporting our young people and gathering together for a time of fellowship.

# PARISH announcements



## St. Cecilia – CYC tuition

The Parish & Finance Council is offering 100% payment reimbursement for families who are interested in receiving financial assistance for their child(ren) to attend Catholic Youth Camp.

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# HOLY DAY mass schedule



## IMMACULATE CONCEPTION (CORRECTION)

Sunday, Dec 8 – 6:30 PM at St. Patrick

Monday, Dec 9 – 8:00 AM at St. Cecilia

Monday, Dec 9 – 6:30 PM at St. Mary

## CHRISTMAS EVE

Christmas Eve at St. Cecilia: a musical prelude will begin at 3:30 PM prior to Mass

Tuesday, Dec 24 – 4:00 PM at St. Cecilia

Tuesday, Dec 24 – 5:45 PM at St. Mary

Tuesday, Dec 24 – 7:15 PM at St. Patrick

## CHRISTMAS DAY

Wednesday, Dec 25 – 9:00 AM at St. Cecilia

## Wednesdays of Advent

Churches in Guthrie Center

Advent service and breakfast at 7 AM

December 11 – Methodist

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## Chaplet of Divine Mercy Closing Prayer

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## MASS intentions



Sat., Nov. Dec. 7 at 4:30 PM — David & Rita Halsey

Sun., Dec. 8 at 8:00 AM — Living members of Leon & Donna Family & Francis & Lila Kastner

Sun., Dec. 8 at 9:30 AM — Bill & Charlotte Holle

Sun., Dec. 8 at 6:30 PM — Deceased members of St. Patrick Ladies Guild

Mon., Dec. 9 at 8:00 AM — Living members of the Ziller family

Mon., Dec 9 at 6:30 PM — Blake & Katie Faucher

Tues., Dec. 10 at 5:30 PM — Rose Marie McAlister

Wed., Dec. 11 at 8:00 AM — Dilma Allen

Thurs., Dec. 12 at 8:00 AM — Deceased members of Leon & Donna Family

Fri., Dec. 13 at 8:00 AM — Caroline Noakes

Sat., Dec. 14 at 4:30 PM — Crosier family

Sun., Dec. 15 at 8:00 AM — Randy Houston & Francis & Lila Kastner

Sun., Dec. 15 at 9:30 AM — Bernadette Clark

Tues., Dec. 17 at 5:30 PM — Jeanne Provenza

Wed., Dec. 18 at 8:00 AM — Clem & Marion Fowler

Thurs., Dec. 19 at 8:00 AM — Deceased members of Leon & Donna Family

Fri., Dec 20 at 8:00 AM — Shelly Bauler



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.

## WEEKLY offerings



St. Cecilia Weekly Offering—\$2,596<sup>00</sup>

St. Mary Weekly Offering—\$1,664<sup>41</sup>

St. Patrick Weekly Offering—\$867<sup>00</sup>



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

December 7 & 8, 2024

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April 2 – 6:30 PM at St. Cecilia



Holy Hour with Exposition and Benediction will  
be offered by Fr Ray, Deacon Dennis and

Deacon Dick in December as follows:

Thursday, Dec 19th at 6:30 PM at St. Patrick

Confession will be available. This is a wonderful  
opportunity during Advent to prepare for  
Christmas.

### Christmas Mingle & Jingle

Join us for the final gathering of 2024 with a Christmas party.  
We'll share in conversation and do an old fashioned Christmas  
sing-a-long! Bring a holiday snack to share if you'd like!

Date/Time: Sunday, December 22, 2024; Doors open at 7:00  
PM; Talk begins at 7:30 PM

Location: Fenders Brewing: 212 W Van Dorn Street, Polk City,  
IA 50226

Website - Fenders Brewing: <https://www.fendersbrewing.com/tapintofaith>

Website - Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/fendersbrewing/>

Website - Diocese: <https://www.dmdiocese.org/events/tap-into-faith-christmas-mingle-jingle?event=63337665-6a21-4e37-8cab-9371e3a612cb>



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# FROM THE DESK OF

## Fr. Ray Higgins



Dear Parish Family,

This Sunday, we celebrate Gaudete Sunday, a day of rejoicing as we draw closer to the celebration of Christ's birth. The readings remind us of the joy and hope of trusting God's promises. The prophet Zephaniah (3:14-18a) speaks of God's tender love for His people, describing Him as a mighty Savior who rejoices over us with gladness. In his letter to the Philippians (4:4-7), St. Paul encourages us to rejoice always, as the Lord is near. Finally, in the Gospel of Luke (3:10-18), John the Baptist challenges us to prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ by living lives of generosity, fairness, and integrity.

As we approach Christmas and gather for holiday celebrations, let us make reconciliation a special intention in our prayers. Consider reaching out to someone you've been distant from or offering forgiveness to those who may have hurt you. These small acts of love and peace can transform hearts and bring the joy of Christ into our lives and relationships.

On another note, I have shared with the Parish and Finance Councils the process our Diocese is encouraging us to undertake to discern a specific area for growth and focus in our parish community. Consider hospitality, outreach to young adults, evangelization, and fostering deeper connections with those outside the parish. The Diocese has provided tools to guide us in this discernment, and I invite you to consider where we can best direct our efforts prayerfully. There will be a time for us to gather, discern, and discuss an area our parish wishes to focus on this year.

May this Advent season fill your hearts with joy and anticipation as we prepare for the coming of our Savior.

In Christ,

Fr. Ray



### St. Cecilia Religious Education Program

On Sunday, December 15th the St. Cecilia's RE classes will be presenting their Christmas program after the 8:00 AM Mass.

Coffee and rolls will be served following the performance.

Please mark your calendars and plan on supporting our young people and gathering together for a time of fellowship.

# PARISH announcements



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# HOLY DAY mass schedule



## CHRISTMAS EVE

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## SOLEMNITY OF MARY

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Churches in Guthrie Center

Advent service and breakfast at 7 AM

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## Chaplet of Divine Mercy Closing Prayer

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Tues., Dec. 24 at 4:00 PM – Orville Leinen

Tues., Dec 24 at 5:45 PM – Mitch Fahnlander

Tues., Dec 24 at 7:15 PM – Fr. Ray Higgins & living & deceased members of Higgins' family

Wed., Dec. 25 at 9:00 AM – Sue Seeman

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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.

## WEEKLY offerings



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St. Mary Weekly Offering—\$1,682<sup>00</sup>

St. Patrick Weekly Offering—\$355<sup>00</sup>

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

December 21 & 22, 2024

## 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



### Adult Faith Formation - Save the Dates!

January – No session (New Year's Day)

February 5 – 6:30 PM at St. Cecilia

March 5 – 6:30 PM at St. Mary

April 2 – 6:30 PM at St. Cecilia



### Christmas Mingle & Jingle

Join us for the final gathering of 2024 with a Christmas party.

We'll share in conversation and do an old-fashioned Christmas sing-a-long! Bring a holiday snack to share if you'd like!

**Date/Time:** Sunday, December 22, 2024

Doors open at 7:00 PM; Talk begins at 7:30 PM

**Location:** Fenders Brewing: 212 W Van Dorn Street, Polk City, IA 50226

Website - Fenders Brewing:

<https://www.fendersbrewing.com/tapintofaith>

Website - Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/fendersbrewing/>

Website - Diocese:

<https://www.dmdiocese.org/events/tap-into-faith-christmas-mingle-jingle?event=63337665-6a21-4e37-8cab-9371e3a612cb>



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 Parishioners,

As we light the final candle on the Advent wreath this week, we are fast approaching the festive celebrations of Christmas. In these final days, we should recollect and prepare ourselves for the Solemn Christ Mass, welcoming the newborn King into our hearts and lives.

The Fourth Sunday of Advent invites us to reflect on the profound mystery of the Incarnation, as foretold by the prophet Micah, who proclaimed, "You, Bethlehem-Ephrathah too small to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel; whose origin is from of old." (Mic 5:2). This prophecy reminds us of the humble beginnings of our Savior, who chose to enter our world in the most unassuming way.

We also hear from the Letter to the Hebrews, which says, "Behold, I come to do your will." (Heb 10:7). The call to obedience and surrender is echoed in the Gospel of Luke, where Mary receives the angel's message, responds with faith and trust, saying, "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word" (Luke 1:38). Yet, we have for the Gospel Mary visiting Elizabeth and in the final verse of today's passage Elizabeth proclaims: "Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken to you by the Lord would be fulfilled."

May we believe in Christ, who has come to teach, reconcile, and redeem us if we choose. As you gather with loved ones this Sunday and Christmas, I pray we do not forget God's love for us, that He sent Jesus to bring us closer to God and each other, and not a time for politics being more important than God and loved ones. God is born into our hearts and our lives, and we are all to become a Holy Family of God. Focusing on relationships comes about by making time for prayer and reflection and then practicing the virtues to allow the spirit of Christmas to fill us with peace and hope.

Remember to check this bulletin for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Mass times.

As you gather with family and friends this Christmas, I encourage you to invite them to Mass. Let us come together not just as a community but as members of God's family to give God the proper worship and adoration He deserves.

May the Christ Child enter your hearts and fill you with His love, peace, and joy. May He be your strength and guide, especially during trials and difficulties.

Wishing you and your loved ones a Merry Christmas filled with many joys and blessings.

May Christ be born in your hearts this Christmas and always.

Fr. Ray

## PARISH announcements



### St. Cecilia – CYC tuition

The Parish & Finance Council is offering 100% payment reimbursement for families who are interested in receiving financial assistance for their child(ren) to attend Catholic Youth Camp.

To request a reimbursement, please submit proof of payment for summer of 2026 Catholic Youth Camps provided by St. Thomas More Center in Panama, IA.

Whether you pay in full, or choose another form of payment, once you have completed 100% of the payment for your child's camp experience, please forward your confirmation of payment email receipt from St. Thomas More Center Catholic Youth Camp to **Geri Thompson** at our **Parish Office**:  
[stcstmstp@netins.net](mailto:stcstmstp@netins.net)

If you have any questions, please email council representative Gale Armbricht at  
[galegustafson@gmail.com](mailto:galegustafson@gmail.com)

### St Mary's Religious Education

All St Mary's RE students in 3rd-6th grade received altar server training during class on Wednesday, November 20th. Please let us know if you would like your child(ren) added to the 2025 server schedule.

If interested, please contact Brenda Sloss or Misaan Hernandez in the office at  
[stmpcsecretary@outlook.com](mailto:stmpcsecretary@outlook.com)



## HOLY DAY mass schedule



### CHRISTMAS EVE

Tuesday, Dec 24 – 4:00 PM at St. Cecilia

Christmas Eve at St. Cecilia: a musical prelude will begin at 3:30 PM prior to Mass

Tuesday, Dec 24 – 5:45 PM at St. Mary

Tuesday, Dec 24 – 7:15 PM at St. Patrick

### CHRISTMAS DAY

Wednesday, Dec 25 – 9:00 AM at St. Cecilia

### SOLEMNITY OF MARY

Tuesday, Dec 31 - 5:30 PM at St. Patrick

Wednesday, Jan 1 - 9:00 AM at St. Mary



## COUNCIL meetings

St. Cecilia - Thursday, January 9th at 6:30 PM

St. Patrick - Tuesday, January 14th at 6:30 PM

St. Mary - Wednesday, January 15th at 6:00 PM

### 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 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 & Rosary, Panora  
8:00 AM Mass, Panora  
9:00 AM Prayer Group, Panora  
4:00 PM Adoration, Guthrie Center

### Thursday

7:45 AM Confessions & Rosary, 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., Dec. 21 at 4:30 PM — Douglas Walstrom

Sun., Dec. 22 at 8:00 AM — Francis & Lila Kastner

Sun., Dec. 22 at 9:30 AM — Don Reinhart

Tues., Dec. 24 at 4:00 PM — Orville Leinen

Tues., Dec 24 at 5:45 PM — Mitch Fahnlander

Tues., Dec 24 at 7:15 PM — Fr. Ray Higgins & living & deceased members of Higgins' family

Wed., Dec. 25 at 9:00 AM — Sue Seeman

Thurs., Dec. 26 at 8:00 AM — Richard Robert Higgins

Fri., Dec. 27 at 8:00 AM — Marvin Finnegan

Sat., Dec. 28 at 4:30 PM — Crosier Family

Sun., Dec. 29 at 8:00 AM — Jack Ryan & Merrick Purcell & all of our military

Sun., Dec. 29 at 9:30 AM — T.J. Redfern

Tues., Dec. 31 at 5:30 PM — Dave & Rita Halsey

Wed., Jan. 1 at 9:00 AM — Lucille Sewell

Thurs., Jan 2 at 8:00 AM — Richard Arganbright

Fri., Jan. 3 at 8:00 AM — Paul & Agatha Sailer



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.

## WEEKLY offerings



St. Cecilia Weekly Offering—\$6,328<sup>00</sup>

St. Mary Weekly Offering—\$1,072<sup>00</sup>

St. Patrick Weekly Offering—\$2,031<sup>48</sup>



### St. Patrick's Church

116 E Division St  
Audubon, IA 50025  
Office 712-563-2283  
St. Patrick's Parish Ctr  
712-563-3300

**Pastor: Father David Nkrumah**

Phone: 712.304.5966 (cell)

Email: fr.nkrumah@yahoo.com

**Secretary: Kathy Kerkhoff, Jennifer Mosinski**

**Business Mgr: Linda Blomme**

**Dir. of Religious Education: April Brand**

### Office Hours

**Tuesday 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.**

**Wednesday 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.**

**Thursday 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.**

**Office E-mail: spht@iowatelecom.net**

**Website: [www.stpatricksholytrinity.org](http://www.stpatricksholytrinity.org)**

**Suggestion Box: spht\_feedback@outlook.com**



### Holy Trinity Church

218 Kilworth St N  
Exira, IA 50076  
Office 712-563-2283  
Holy Trinity Hall  
712-268-5466

### ST. PATRICK'S / HOLY TRINITY MISSION STATEMENT

*To share the good news of Jesus in word and deed; to gather in prayer, worship, and the celebration of the Eucharist; to facilitate life-long faith formation; to serve the larger community especially the poor and marginalized; and to sustain parish ministry through the stewardship of time, talent, and treasure.*

### SACRAMENTS

#### **RECONCILIATION**

ST. PATRICK'S:  
4:30 PM SATURDAYS  
HOLY TRINITY:  
8:00-8:15 AM

2ND & 4TH SUNDAYS

ALSO BY APPOINTMENT

#### **ANOIDING OF THE SICK**

CALL THE OFFICE IF POSSIBLE  
WHEN HOSPITALIZED.

#### **BAPTISM**

CALL THE OFFICE DURING  
PREGNANCY FOR PREPARA-  
TION CLASS.

#### **MARRIAGE**

CALL THE OFFICE AT LEAST  
NINE MONTHS TO ONE YEAR  
AHEAD TO PLAN MARRIAGE  
PREPARATION. WEDDING  
DATE SHOULD NOT BE SET  
UNTIL PREPARATIONS HAVE  
BEGUN.

#### **ANNULMENT/**

#### **MARRIAGE VALIDATION**

CALL THE OFFICE TO LEARN  
MORE ABOUT THIS PROCESS  
WITH DIOCESAN TRIBUNAL IF  
YOU ARE DIVORCED AND RE-  
MARRIED OR NEVER MARRIED  
IN THE CATHOLIC CHURCH.

#### **RCIA**

CALL THE OFFICE IF YOU ARE  
INTERESTED IN LEARNING  
MORE ABOUT THE CATHOLIC  
CHURCH OR THE RCIA PRO-  
CESS.

#### **MEMBERSHIP/ REGISTRATION**

IF YOU ARE NEW, WELCOME  
TO OUR PARISH. PLEASE  
REGISTER BY CALLING THE  
OFFICE. IF YOU ARE MOVING  
AWAY, PLEASE CONTACT THE  
OFFICE TO NOTIFY US BEFORE  
MOVING.

**BULLETIN DEADLINE:**  
WEDNESDAY NOON

## Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph December 29, 2024



In the second reading, Saint Paul teaches the burgeoning Christian family in Colossae the importance of "bearing with one another and forgiving one another" (Colossians 3:13). This needs to happen for any family to thrive and grow. Families will have disagreements. Family members will hurt one another, unintentionally or not. In today's Gospel, Mary and Joseph could have punished Jesus for not telling them that he was staying in the temple. Jesus could have been offended that he was being treated like a child. But any negative feelings they had they bore without lashing out and they forgave one another for their misunderstandings.

Because she was childless for so long, Hannah promised God that if she had a son, she would consecrate him to the Lord. Today we would never consider giving a little child over to the priests of our parish. Yet, parents generally bring their newborns to the church to be baptized, consecrating them in their faith. Though the newborn's parents still raise the child as their own, they also understand that all of us are God's children and they trust God to watch over their precious baby, for he or she is precious to God as well. We place our children in God's hands, as our parents likely did when we were young.

Luke tells us that all who heard the twelve-year-old Jesus in the temple "were astounded at his understanding" (Luke 2:47). His response to his parents when they finally find him shows that he understands that he is the Son of the God who welcomes being called "Abba," an intimate term for "Father." He understands that even though his mother and foster father love him with all their hearts, his Father loves him with a divine love, a perfect love. Lather he will tell his disciples that the Father loves them perfectly as well.

**Question of the Week:** How can I help my family be more reflective of the Holy Family? What difficulties stand out in our family life?

### DAILY READINGS:

#### Monday

Dec. 30

1 Jn 2:12-17

Lk 2:36-40

#### Tuesday

Dec. 31

1 Jn 2:18-21

Jn 1:1-18

#### Wednesday

Jan. 1

#### **Solemnity of Mary**

Nm 6:22-27

Gal 4:4-7

Lk 2:16-21

#### Thursday

Jan. 2

1 Jn 2:22-28

Jn 1:19-28

#### Friday

Jan. 3

1 Jn 2:29-3:6

Jn 1:29-34

#### Saturday

Jan. 4

1 Jn 3:7-10

Jn 1:35-42

#### Sunday

Jan. 5

#### **Epiphany of the Lord**

Is 60:1-6

Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6

Mt 2:1-12

## Mass Schedule

### Monday, December 30:

9:00 a.m.—Cup of Grace

### Tuesday, December 31: Solemnity of Mary

4:00 p.m.—New Year's Eve Mass at H.T.

[Joe & Stella Bexten & John Bexten]

6:00 p.m.—New Year's Eve Mass at S.P.

[Joan Heller]

### Wednesday, January 1: Solemnity of Mary

8:30 a.m.—New Year's Day Mass at S.P.

[Fred Wittrock]

### Thursday, January 2:

7:30 a.m.—Mass at S.P. [Jacque Rattenborg]

3:00 p.m.—Holy Hour at SP

### Friday, January 3:

7:30 a.m.—Mass at S.P. [Richard & Rita Briggs]

8:30 a.m.—Mass at H.T. [Harriet Jayne]

### Saturday, January 4:

4:30 p.m.—Adoration/Reconciliation

5:00 p.m.—Encounter Mass at SP

[Randy Tasler]

### Sunday, January 5: Epiphany of our Lord

8:30 a.m.—Mass at SP [Joan Bauer]

9:30 a.m.—Coffee & Rolls at SP

10:30 a.m.—Mass at HT

[Lawrence & Marjorie Schultes & Mary Kay Chambers]

## *Happy Birthday*

29th - Russ Crawford

30th - Kory Lauridsen

1st - Don Heller

Ben Kerkhoff

Kate Hansen

3rd— Charlotte Fett

Skyla Rasmussen



## *Happy Anniversary*

*Scott & April Brand*

18 Yrs. ~ December 29, 2006

*Cole & Sarah Bruch*

8 Yrs. ~ December 31, 2016

*Gary & Rosemary Williamson*

65 Yrs. ~ January 2, 1960

*Darrell & Nancy Wittrock*

49 Yrs. ~ January 3, 1976

## December 22 Giving

	St. Patrick's	Holy Trinity
Tithes	\$5,507.00	\$395.00
Plate	\$158.00	\$68.00
Building Fund	\$15,452.62	
Christmas	\$75.00	1178.00
Total	\$21,192.62	\$1641.00



HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

Mass times:

Tuesday, December 31:

4:00 p.m. at Holy Trinity

6:00 p.m. at St. Patrick's

Wednesday, January 1:

8:30 a.m. at St. Patrick's



**St. Pat's Goal: \$32,463.00** Donor Yet to

Pledges & Gifts: \$32,463.00

Payments Rec'd: \$32,463.00 63 73

**FULLY PAID! Thank You!**

**Holy Trinity's Goal: \$8,885.00**

Pledges & Gifts: \$8,221.36 Donor Yet to

Payments Rec'd: \$8,221.36 Households Donate

**Needed: \$663.64** 21 20



**Holy Trinity's goal \$40,000.00**

Pledges & Gifts \$30,936.00 Donor Yet to Households Donate

Payments Rec'd \$24,144.33 19 21

**Needed \$9,064.00**



### BECOMING THE BEST DISCIPLE

The quote for this week that also appears on the whiteboard in the front of the church is:

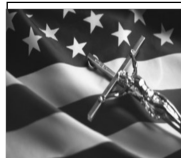
"Unto us a child is born

A Savior Christ our Lord.

Merry Christmas!"

Take time this week to sit quietly, or perhaps as you drive to your destination, to reflect on this message.

REMEMBER TO LISTEN FOR GOD'S RESPONSE.



### PRAY FOR THEIR SERVICE:

Several of our members and relatives of members are currently serving in the military. Please pray for them and their families. We pray for their safety and when on a mission, their quick return home to

family and friends.

Chance McLaughlin  
Hayden McLaughlin  
Cole & Mary Turnbull  
Taylor Kerkhoff  
Mark Hjuler  
Craig Hjuler  
Zachary Kirkpatrick  
Madeline Bintner

Daniel Buser  
Rusty Dixon  
Sara Kerkhoff  
Robert Hjuler  
Chris Hjuler  
Mason Hjuler  
Mark Otte

\*Please contact the office with any other names.



✝All those involved in serving our country in any capacity.

Special prayers to those on our prayer chain: Caleb Deist, Kellen Hemmingsen, LeAnn Hoffman, Ivan Blocker, Bill Ryan,

Tina Madsen, Mirra Wolff, Ellie Bennett, Lucille Wittrock, Jim Arnold, Kenny Hess, Rosemary Hess, Joe Schulte, Lauren Bock, Larry Petersen, Jared Schliecher, Kris Pilcher, Dawson Truitt, Lilly Hankemeier, Peggy Sowden, Eleanor, Emilin & Enastatia Clark, Robbi Wittrock, Jenny Brabham, Oliver Turnbull, Vern Wagner, Ava Weitzl, Fred Miller, Dash Burr, Randy Clausen, Connie (Fox) Hawthorne, Becky Sextro Rasmussen, Sheri Jo Porsch, Don Heller, Joyce Grabill, Leonard Baumhover, Larry O'Tool, Tom Grote and all those who are facing very difficult situations and suffer in silence.

All those who are suffering and their families remain in our thoughts and prayers. Please contact the office if your loved one's status changes.

## **Bible Study**



Dates: Mondays Jan 13—Mar 3

Time: 7:00 pm

Location: Church Basement

Price: \$35

Contact: Deanna Kerkhoff or the church office

Description: You know prayer is important but still find it challenging. Perhaps it's hard to find time, or you're unsure what to do when you pray. Or maybe you feel discouraged by your weaknesses and your inability to overcome them.

If you have any of these feelings, you are not alone. Many of the saints struggled in prayer. They were like us. But each time they fell, they got up again and learned to rely more on God's grace.

What God did in the lives of countless saints, he wants to do in the lives of ordinary people like us. And that's what this study is about: the journey of prayer God wants to take us on.

Because few people get tired of quality children's programs... and yet we can learn a few things too....

FORMED: 51401



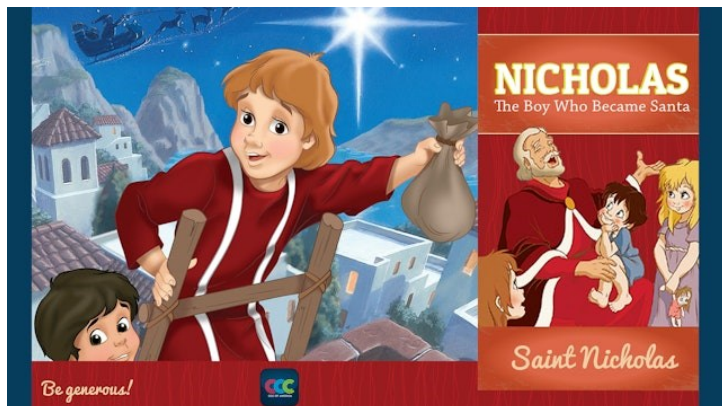
### ST. PATRICK'S CATHOLIC WOMEN NOTES:



Our coat drive continues. Please leave coats, hats, gloves in the box in the west entrance of the basement.



Do you have cleaning products you don't use? We will have a box in the back of church for Caring and Sharing. They can be new or partially used as long as they are at least half full.



## THE HOLY FAMILY: JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH

As modern discussions make clear, it is not easy to define a family or the roles within it. Today's readings add the complication that more is expected of individuals who exercise extraordinary roles, whether it is the judge-priest-prophet-Nazirite Samuel, the God-become-human Jesus, or even ordinary Christians trying to live out their Christian identity in the world.

**Samuel:** Despite their designation as "historical," the Books of Samuel interpret all historical events theologically. Consisting of a total of fifty-five chapters that describe the years 1070 to 970 BC, these books interpret the transition from the chaotic period of the judges to the kingship of David. For the author of Samuel, it is God who raises up, inspires, and guides leaders, not historical or political circumstances, much less the person himself. This insight is key to understanding today's reading.

In the verses preceding today's reading, the reader is introduced to Samuel through his birth narrative. The chapter begins with a description of his pious family: his father Elkanah and his mother Hannah. Tormented by Elkanah's other wife, Peninnah, over her barrenness, Hannah prays at the shrine in Shiloh for a male child and vows that she will raise him as a Nazirite, dedicating him to the Lord's service. After an initial misunderstanding, the resident priest—Eli—blesses her and her prayer.

Today's reading begins with God's answer to her prayer: Hannah conceives and gives birth to a son. Highly theological, the reading pulls together many of the previous pieces of the story to show that this is more than a story of a family: it is a story of God's work in the world. First, Hannah stands in line with other barren women in Scripture whose sons furthered God's salvific plans. We can recall the examples of Sarah, the mother of Isaac; the unnamed mother of Samson; and Elizabeth, the mother of John the Baptist. Next we see that the reading continues to focus on the highly religious nature of the family. They engage in the annual pilgrimage, make vows, offer sacrifice, and trust in God's answer to prayer. Indeed, the child's name, *shemu'el* (Samuel), is explained by the phrase *she'iltiv* (requested from God). Thus, the circumstances of his birth and the faith of his parents foretell Samuel's greatness. This child, who is the answer to a vow, bridges the periods of the judges and the kings. Dedicated from his birth, he serves a priestly role at Shiloh, as a Nazirite. Chosen by God, he is prophet who meditates between God and Israel's first kings.

*From "Workbook for Lectors, Gospel Readers and Proclaimers of the Word."*

## Holy Trinity Finance Council

December 17, 2024

Those present were Judy Bintner, Mark Richards, Jean Madsen, Hugh Rossell and Father David.

Father led us in an opening prayer.

Mark moved to approve agenda and Jean seconded, all approved.

A president needed to be appointed since Vern Venteicher is not on the council. Judy nominated Jean, Mark seconded and all approved.

Review finance reports, Mark moved to approve and seconded by Hugh, all approved. Members reviewed bank statements and ledger sheets and signed.

Old business: Paul Christensen will take Vern Venteicher place on the council. After letters were sent out for donations since we were not having the chicken supper we received \$2215.00. Jean gave an update on the directory. Hopefully they will be printed now. Mark & Vernie put in some gravel and cement to help with the parking lot entrances from the street.

New business: The minutes of the finance council and altar & rosary meeting will start to be published in the bulletin. A female member needs to be appointed for the churches trustee. Judy will ask Donna Faga to take Vicki Richards place. Russ Crawford is the other trustee. They will be asked to attend the next meeting in March. After last meeting with the Catholic Foundation of Southwest Iowa representative, we have decided to return the cemetery funds back to Exchange State Bank in a Certification of Deposit. Mark moved to transfer the funds and Hugh seconded, all approved. Judy will contact the Diocese office to get that done.

The next meeting will be Tuesday, **March 18, 2025** at 7:00. Father closed with a prayer. Mark moved to adjourn **and** Hugh seconded.

Submitted by Judy Bintner

### St. Patrick's Finance Council:

Tom Chambers	Charlotte Fett
Michelle Griffith	Marty Hanson
Don Mosinski	Doug Sorensen
Kevin Wittrock	

### Holy Trinity Finance Council:

Judy Bintner  
Paul Christensen  
Jean Madsen  
Mark Richards  
Hugh Rossell

### Corpus Christi Pastoral Council:

Bob Blomme	Lynda Best
Aaron Kerkhoff	Ben Hansen
Brooke Klocke	Jennifer Brabham

## ARS Meeting Minutes

December 2024, January 2025

The ARS meeting was held Sunday, Dec. 4, 2024 with 12 members in attendance. Lynda opened the meeting with a Hail Mary. The minutes & treasurer reports were read & approved. Checking account balance is \$5550.53 and savings \$934.42. Bills presented were to Jean Madsen for cleaning and church hall supplies for \$155.90. Cleo moved and Abby seconded and motion carried.

New Business: Susan told about the Bishop unexpected visit a few Sundays ago and how a breakfast was pulled together in a couple of days notice. Talked about setting up Christmas trees earlier than the Sunday before Christmas, someone will visit with Father about doing that. The soup supper will be Jan. 12, 2025. Jean moved to try serving at noon instead of at night. Abby seconded and motion carried. We will serve from 11:30 to 1:00 and try free will instead of a certain amount. Will deliver in town to shut-ins and ask that they call from 10:00-11:00 at the hall for delivery. Abby will make a flyer to put on face book, Judy will contact city for park sign and call radio stations, the newspaper and local churches. The Unity Supper will be in January but do not know who the host church is.

Discussed Father David's Christmas gift and also a donation to help with his medical expenses, Jean moved and Susan seconded and motion carried. Discussed how the kneelers in the front pews don't stay up and are dangerous if anyone sets there. Will see about taking them out.

Jenny moved and Jean seconded to adjourn motion carried.

Lynda led us in the Our Father to close the meeting.

Submitted by Judy Bintner, Sec/Treasurer



**ALTAR & ROSARY SOCIETY**  
**SOUP DINNER**  
January 12, 2025  
11:30am-1:00pm  
Freewill Donation

Free Delivery to Shut-Ins...call 712.268.5466  
between 10:00am & 11:00am to schedule delivery

**ARS MEMBERS**—The sign up sheet to help with the January Soup Supper is in the back of church. Please sign up at your earliest convenience.

## St. Patrick's Financial Council – December 10, 2024

Fr. David opened our meeting with prayer at 7PM. In addition to Fr. David, council members attending were Tom Chambers, Kevin Wittrock, Charlotte Fett, Michelle Griffith, Doug Sorensen, Marty Hanson, and Don Mosinski.

Doug moved/Marty seconded that the agenda for the meeting be approved. All voted in favor. Minutes of the October 8, 2024 finance council meeting were read. Doug moved/Charlotte seconded approval of minutes as submitted. All in favor.

Linda went over the financial statements from October & November. No major expenses during the period. We did have \$1,423 in expenses in November for priests who covered for us while Fr. David was receiving medical care. Net income for end of November was \$1,522. The building fund had a gain of \$10,000. Parishioners have been very generous! This brings the fund to \$221,007 as of the end of November. Kevin moved/Marty seconded approval of the financial statements as presented. All approved.

**Safety Committee:** Marty was in touch with the gentlemen who handled our bat removal. He rented a lift to close off one spot where the bats had been able to get back in. Linda is working on an evacuation plan.

**Grounds committee:** Michelle found some grant possibilities for cemetery repairs. The Daughters of the American Revolution provide grants for repairs on historical grave sites. Several organizations provide grants for the cemeteries of veterans. Linda will provide a list of veterans buried at St. Patrick's cemetery, and Michelle will work on applying for some of those grants, to do repairs on at least some of the headstones.

**Old Business:** Thad Harker of Primus Companies has lined up an engineering team for our building project. The original estimate from K/O Architects included civil engineering and topographical surveys, architectural and interior designs, mechanical electrical and plumbing design, structural engineering designs, soil testing and miscellaneous at a cost of \$125,000. The Primus estimate came in much lower at \$40,540 for this work, with no miscellaneous expenses included. After much discussion, it was decided that the investment in the plan would be a good investment, even if we don't move forward with the construction right away. Doug moved/ Marty seconded approval of Primus Companies as the engineer on this planning phase, subject to the approval of the Diocesan Property Management Director. All voted in favor.

Linda will call Mid American Energy about converting the lights in the church basement to LED lights. St. Patrick's parish has met its ADA goal as of 12/10/24!!

**New Business:** Marty moved and Kevin seconded approval of Christmas bonuses of \$250 each for staff members, and \$50 each for catechists.

The diocesan priest housing agreement was read. Kevin motioned and Michelle seconded approval of the letter as read. All voted in favor.

**The next finance council meeting** will be held February 18 at 7pm.

Don moved/Michelle seconded that we adjourn the meeting at 8:35 pm. All approved.

Respectfully submitted, Michelle Griffith

St. Patrick's January Liturgy Schedule					
Date	Ushers	Reader	Eucharistic Ministers	Music	Servers
New Year's Eve Tues., Dec. 31 6:00 pm		Jennifer Mosinski	Jennifer & Don Mosinski Kalli Wilder	Rosemary Williamson	Izik, Jocelyn, & Jordyn Sorensen
New Year's Day Wed., January 1 8:30 a.m.	Marty Hanson	April Brand	Kathy Kerkhoff Aaron Kerkhoff	Deanna Kerkhoff	Emma & Mason Brand Claire Kerkhoff
Sat., January 4 5:00 p.m.			Ann Carter	Gary Keller Aaron Kerkhoff	Brayden, Camden, & Trinden Sporrer
Sun., January 5 8:30 a.m.	Jack Stanerson Youth	YOUTH	Tom Chambers April Brand Kathy Kerkhoff	Linda Blomme Blane Kerkhoff Emma Brand	Lucy & Ella Stanerson Grace Brand
Sat., January 11 5:00 p.m.		Nancy Wittrock	Darrell & Nancy Wittrock Linda Kerkhoff	Jo Beane	Paxton Beane Kaleb & Evan Nelson
Sun., January 12 10:30 a.m.	Brent Bauer	Kathy Kerkhoff	Aaron Kerkhoff Sara Kerkhoff	Linda Blomme Blane Kerkhoff	Izik, Jocelyn & Jordyn Sorensen
Sat., January 18 5:00 p.m.		Judy Wagner	Jon & Alice Lauridsen Kenny Petersen	Gary Keller Deanna Kerkhoff	Brylynn Petersen McKenna & Avery Wilder
Sun., January 19 8:30 a.m.		Ann Carter	Lora Anthofer Virginia Mennenoh April Brand	Linda Blomme Tom Mennenoh	Karleigh & Wyatt Henkle Gavin Carter
Sat., January 25 5:00 p.m.	Kenny Petersen	April Brand		Gary Keller Rosemary Williamson	Marie, Mason & Grace Brand
Sun., January 26 10:30 a.m.		Lora Anthofer	Tom Chambers Virginia Mennenoh	Linda Blomme Tom Mennenoh	Autumn & Kara Klocke Claire Kerkhoff
Sacristans: Saturday: Alice Lauridsen    Sunday: Brian Klocke					

Holy Trinity's January Liturgy Schedule						
Date	Ushers	Reader	Eucharistic Minister	E.C.C.	Music	Servers
Sun., Jan. 5 10:30 a.m.	Leonard Hansen Volunteer	Russ Crawford	Jenny Brabham	Jenny Brabham	Jane Beckendorf	Brooklyn Brabham Zoey Rasmussen
Sun., Jan. 12 8:30 a.m.	Ben Hansen Volunteer	Jenny Brabham	Ben Hansen	Mike Bintner	Riann Hansen	Alex & Jack Hansen
Sun., Jan. 19 10:30 a.m.	Joe & Weston Rasmussen	Roe Rasmussen	Abby Rasmussen	Abby Rasmussen	Jean Madsen	Austin & Harper Rasmussen
Sun., Jan. 26 8:30 a.m.	Vernie Venteicher Volunteer	Gary Smouse	Mike Bintner	Mike Bintner	Judy Bintner	Gavin & Ryleigh Anthofer



# January 2025 St Patrick-Audubon and Holy Trinity-Exira

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<b>5</b> Epiphany of the Lord 8:30 Mass @ SP - Heaven Cent 9:30 Coffee & Rolls @ SP - Youth 10:30 Mass @ HT	<b>6</b> 9:00 Cup of Grace @ Friendship Home	<b>7</b> 10:30 Mass @ Friendship Home	<b>1</b> Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God 8:30 New Year's Mass @ SP	<b>2</b> 7:30 Mass @ SP 3:00p Holy Hour @ SP	<b>3</b> 7:30 Mass @ SP 8:30 Mass @ HT	<b>4</b> 4:30p Adoration/Reconciliation @ SP 5:00p Encounter Night Mass @ SP
<b>12</b> 8:30 Mass @ HT - Heaven Cent 9:30 Coffee & Rolls @ HT 10:30 Mass @ SP	<b>13</b> 9:00 Cup of Grace	<b>14</b> 7:30 Mass @ SP	<b>15</b> 7:30 Mass @ SP 8:30 Mass @ HT 4:30p RE (K-8 grades) 7:00p RE (9-12 grades) 7:00p Choir Practice	<b>16</b> 7:30 Mass @ SP	<b>17</b> 7:30 Mass @ SP 8:30 Mass @ HT	<b>18</b> 4:30p Reconciliation @ SP 5:00p Mass @ SP
<b>19</b> 8:30 Mass @ SP 9:30 SPCW Meeting 9:30 Coffee & Rolls @ SP 10:30 Mass @ HT	<b>20</b> 9:00 Cup of Grace 7:30p Knights of Columbus Meeting	<b>21</b> 7:30 Mass @ SP	<b>22</b> 7:30 Mass @ SP 8:30 Mass @ HT 4:30p RE (K-8 grades) 7:00p RE (9-12 grades) 7:00p Choir Practice	<b>23</b> 7:30 Mass @ SP	<b>24</b> 7:30 Mass @ SP 8:30 Mass @ HT	<b>25</b> 4:30p Reconciliation @ SP 5:00p Mass @ SP
<b>26</b> 8:30 Mass @ HT 10:30 Mass @ SP	<b>27</b> 9:00 Cup of Grace	<b>28</b> 7:30 Mass @ SP	<b>29</b> 7:30 Mass @ SP 8:30 Mass @ HT 4:30p RE (K-8 grades) 7:00p RE (9-12 grades) 7:00p Choir Practice	<b>30</b> 7:30 Mass @ SP	<b>31</b> 7:30 Mass @ SP 8:30 Mass @ HT	