

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

December 13 & 14, 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

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.



PARISH announcements

Sounds of Christmas

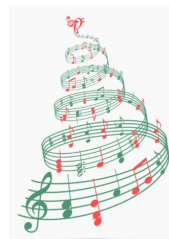
Guthrie Center Church Musicians in Concert

Sunday, December 14th, 2PM

First United Methodist Church

405 Prairie St., Guthrie Center4

Free-will offering for
GC Association of Churches



St. Mary's Snow Removal

Please contact a council member or office staff if you would be interested in snow removal this winter.



St. Cecilia's Christmas Program

St. Cecilia's Religious Ed. program will be after Mass on Sunday, December 14th.

Following the program coffee, juice, and rolls will be served. Please stay and support our young people and join in fellowship after the program.



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,

This weekend, we light the rose candle and are told to "Rejoice" (Gaudete). Still, the Gospel shows us a scene that doesn't seem joyful at first. John the Baptist is in a dark prison cell. He sends a message to Jesus, asking, "Are you the one who is to come, or should we look for another?" John expected the Messiah to bring quick justice and break down barriers. Instead, he hears that Jesus is healing the sick, preaching to the poor, and sharing meals with sinners. Jesus' reply to John matters for us, too: "Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind regain their sight, the lame walk..." Jesus tells John and us to focus on the fruit, not the fortress. We often wish God would take away our struggles right away. We want our problems to disappear now. But St. James reminds us in the second reading to "be patient, like a farmer waiting for the precious fruit of the earth." This Advent, real joy comes from seeing that while we wait for big answers, God is already working quietly in small ways. He is softening hearts, healing old wounds, and planting seeds of hope. The harvest will come. Don't lose heart.

Have a blessed week,

Fr. Ray

SILENT IGNATIAN RETREAT FOR WOMEN

To Be Filled - A Lenten Preached Retreat

Creighton University
Retreat Center
March 12 – 15, 2026

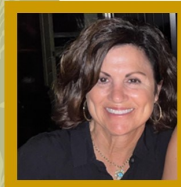
God wants nothing more than to fill what's un-filled in our lives. Our relationships, jobs, ministries, life circumstances and hopes can be areas we feel are lacking something. Even our faith can feel like a basket holding only fragments of bread. We long for an ever deepening fulfillment in God, yet 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



Creighton University Retreat Center
16493 Contrail Ave | Griswold, IA 51535 | 712.778.2466 | curc@creighton.edu

A CATHOLIC CONFERENCE FOR OUR SEARCHING SOULS
CHRIST OUR LIFE



Save the Date!

September 26 & 27, 2026

World Class Speakers, Masses Saturday and Sunday,
Reconciliation, Adoration, Great Music & Community

Casey's Center Des Moines, IA
(Formerly Wells Fargo Arena)

PARISH announcements

Statewide parish announcement

A new formal Decree issued by Archbishop Zinkula for the Province of Dubuque, which includes the Archdiocese of Dubuque, the Diocese of Davenport, the Diocese of Des Moines, and the Diocese of Sioux City. It raises the standard amount of a Mass offering to \$10.00 per Mass throughout the State of Iowa.

The Decree goes into effect on January 1, 2026

St. Cecilia

St. Cecilia's parish has placed a crib like basket among the small tress to the left of the alter in anticipation of the Christ Child. Lets overflow it with non-perishable food for the food pantry during this advent season.



Dear Parish Families,

During the Sundays of Advent the children's offertory, a manager will be present instead of a collection basket. Just as the Holy Family needed assistance, so do many of our community families. We invite our parish families to bring baby items to be donated to Guthrie Public Health and New Opportunities. Children may wish to place in the crib the gift of praying for someone or acts of charity/kindness performed that week written on a piece of paper as a great way to help

those in need. Together, let us prepare a loving bed for the coming Christ child.

HOLIDAY mass times



December 24: Christmas Eve

4:00 p.m. at St. Mary

5:30 p.m. at St. Patrick

7:15 p.m. at St. Cecilia

December 25: Christmas Day

9:00 a.m. at St. Cecilia

December 31: Solemnity of Mary Vigil

5:30 p.m. at St. Mary (TIME CHANGE)

January 1: Solemnity of Mary

9:00 a.m. at St. Cecilia

Marriage is a journey!! A Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend can help you enrich your marriage and add some pazazz to your journey. Whether you've been married 1 year or 50, a Marriage Encounter Weekend may be just the thing you need to put a breath of fresh air into your relationship. Upcoming weekends are: February 13-15 in Dubuque, April 10-12 in Marshalltown, October 9-11 in Epworth. For more information call Denise at (563)920-9419 or register at wwme.org.



**BE PATIENT, THEREFORE, BROTHERS,
UNTIL THE COMING OF THE LORD.**

JAMES 5:7a



WEEKLY calendar

Saturday

4:00 PM Confessions, Bayard
4:15 PM Divine Mercy, Bayard
4:30 PM Mass, Bayard

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 Divine Mercy, 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
4:30 PM Adoration, Guthrie Center

Thursday

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

Friday

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

MASS intentions



Sat., December 13 at 4:30 PM — Annette & Andy Haverman
Sun., December 14 at 8:00 AM — Roger Meyer
Sun., December 14 at 9:30 AM — Don Reinhart
Tues., December 16 at 5:30 PM — Darla Davis
Wed., December 17 at 8:00 AM — Timothy Crees
Thurs., December 18 at 8:00 AM — Susanne Follet
Fri., December 19 at 8:00 AM — Shelly Bauler

Sat., December 20 at 4:30 PM — Anita Sheehan
Sun., December 21 at 8:00 AM — Clem & Marion Fowler Family
Sun., December 21 at 9:30 AM — Jean Knobbe
Tues., December 23 at 5:30 PM — Carlene Murrane Family &
Matt Murrane
Wed., December 24 at 8:00 AM — Kim Lubeck
Thurs., December 25 at 8:00 AM — Don & Joan Staver Family
Fri., December 26 at 8:00 AM — Duane Clark

Chaplet of Divine Mercy Closing Prayer

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

WEEKLY offerings



St. Cecilia Weekly Offering

Sunday weekly offering— \$4,050
ADA Goal \$24,220 ADA Balance Due \$3,270

St. Mary Weekly Offering

Sunday weekly offering— \$1,179
ADA— PAID IN FULL

St. Patrick Weekly Offering

Sunday weekly offering— \$219
ADA— PAID IN FULL



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.