

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

OCTOBER 3 & 4, 2026

PARISH NEWS

ST. CECILIA • PANORA

Annual Chicken Dinner



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4 • 11 AM TO 1:30 PM

VETERANS AUDITORIUM • PANORA

Join us for St. Cecilia's Annual Chicken Dinner.

Come enjoy a delicious chicken dinner and a wonderful afternoon of food, fellowship and community.

Adults: \$15

Children (Ages 6-12): \$10

Children (Under 6): Free

RESURRECTION CEMETERY

Cemetery Fall Cleanup



OCTOBER 1 - 14

Fall cleanup for Resurrection Cemetery will take place October 1 - 14 to prepare the grounds for the upcoming winter season.

If you have decorations at a gravesite that you would like to keep, please remove them before October 1. Any decorations remaining in the cemetery during the cleanup period will be discarded.

Decorations may be returned **after October 14.**

Questions? Contact Cindy Ahrens at 641-740-1100

Faith, Fellowship & Conversation

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

Sponsored by Our Lady's Immaculate Heart Catholic Church.

Feel free to arrive early to eat and socialize.

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

Upcoming speakers:

October 25
Maggie DeWitte
Executive Director,
Pulse Life Advocates

November 22
Fr. Ambrose Ladu Daniel
Associate Pastor of OLIH

ST. MARY • GUTHRIE CENTER

Student Mass

OCTOBER 18, 2026

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

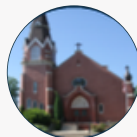
Our students will take an active role in the celebration of Mass by serving in the various ministry roles.

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

OUR PARISHES



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



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



ST. PATRICK
214 Prairie St.
Bayard, IA 50029

FROM THE DESK OF FR. RAY

Dear Parishioners,

The vineyard is bigger than the parish.

That simple thought from this weekend's Gospel is worth carrying with us.

We come to church to hear God's Word, receive his grace, and receive Christ in the Eucharist. But after that, we are sent back into the world: to our homes, workplaces, schools, farms, friendships, and communities.

Our faith is not meant to remain inside the church building.

God is forming us to live the life of Christ wherever he has placed us.

That is also what we have been learning in our Thursday evening Classes on the Virtues.

In **Class 1— Virtue and Vice**, we asked: “**What am I becoming?**” Our choices gradually shape the kind of person we become.

In **Class 2— Habit and Character**, we asked: “**What am I practicing?**” Repeated choices become habits, and our habits give direction to our lives.

In **Class 3— Grace and Human Effort**, we learned that we do not become holy simply by trying harder. **God acts first. He gives grace. We are called to receive that grace and cooperate with it.**

Last Thursday, in **Class 4— Prudence**, we began studying the first cardinal virtue. Prudence helps us see clearly, judge wisely, and choose the good thing to do in the real circumstances of everyday life.

This coming Thursday October 8, we will focus on the Cardinal Virtue of **Justice**. Justice asks a very practical question: **What do I owe God and what do I owe other people?** For example, at home, what I owe, or Justice can mean being patient and generous with family, doing our fair share to help, or offering a sincere apology when we are wrong. At work, it might look like being honest on the job, treating coworkers with respect, and keeping our promises. With friends or neighbors, it could mean listening carefully, standing up for someone who is left out, or being willing to forgive. These are some of the simple ways we can answer justice in our daily lives.

Justice concerns how we treat our spouse, children, parents, coworkers, neighbors, strangers, the poor, the difficult person, and even the person we disagree with.

In other words, virtue is not just something we do at church. **Home is part of God's vineyard.** So is the workplace. So are the farm, the school, the store, the neighborhood, the ballgame, the coffee shop, and anywhere else ordinary life take us.

This is where our faith becomes visible. How do I speak to people? Am I honest? Do I listen? Do I gossip? Do I keep my promises? Do I treat people fairly? Do I notice someone lonely?

Can people encounter something of the patience, mercy, honesty, and love of Christ because they encountered me? That is why we are studying virtues. We are not trying simply to learn definitions. **We are people in formation.** With God's grace, we are learning to become the people God created us to be so that we can live the life of Christ in the world, not just at church.

If you have yet to attend, **please join us.** Each class stands on its own and I remind everyone of the main idea from previous classes.

Please join us for the one-hour class this Thursday October 8, at **7:00 p.m.** at St. Mary Parish Hall as we begin **Class 5—Justice.**

October is the Month of the Rosary please pray with the parishioners the Rosary which will start approximately 25 minutes before Mass.

God bless you,

Fr. Ray

WHAT'S HAPPENING

COUNCIL MEETINGS

Upcoming Parish Council Meeting dates:

St. Cecilia • Oct. 8 • 6:30 PM

St. Patrick • Oct. 13 • 6:30 PM

St. Mary • Oct. 14 • 6:00 PM

See you soon!



Marriage Encounter



Strengthen your marriage with a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend.

- Oct. 9-11, 2026 • Epworth
- Feb. 12-14, 2027 • Dubuque

For more information, contact Dennis & Greg:
563-920-9419 • wwme.org

Our 12-Week Journey

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

OCT. 8 — JUSTICE

What do I owe God and others?

OCT. 15 — FORTITUDE

Doing what's right when it costs me.

OCT. 22 — TEMPERANCE

Who's in charge — me or my desires?

OCT. 29 — FAITH

Learning to see through God's eyes.

NOV. 5 — HOPE

What keeps me going when life gets difficult?

NOV. 12 — CHARITY

Learning to love like Christ.

NOV. 19 — THE BATTLE WITHIN

Why do I keep doing this?

NOV. 26 — THANKSGIVING

No class

DEC. 3 — A RULE OF LIFE

How do I make change last?



WEEKLY OFFERINGS

ST. CECILIA
\$1,206

ACH: \$850
ADA Balance due: \$3,921

ST. MARY
\$2,578

ACH \$1,120

ST. PATRICK
\$404

ACH \$1,825



HAPPY HOUR
5:00-6:00PM

LIVE BAND
BURNIN' SENSATIONS

TICKETS - \$50

LITTLE CHARGER EARLY LEARNING CENTER

Annual Fundraiser

2026

A LITTLE Heat.
A LOT OF Heart.

SUPPORTING BIG DREAMS AND BRIGHT FUTURES

Saturday, November 7th

EVENTS CENTER
GUTHRIE CENTER, IA



DINNER
6:00 PM

AUCTION ITEMS
BASKETS, SILENT AUCTION,
& LIVE AUCTION

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

UPCOMING SCHEDULE



WEEKLY CALENDAR

SATURDAY

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

SUNDAY

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

MONDAY

No Mass

TUESDAY

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

WEDNESDAY

7:45 AM Confessions & Divine Mercy • Panora
8:00 AM Mass • Panora
9:00 AM Prayer Group • Panora
3:30 PM Adoration • Guthrie Center

THURSDAY

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

FRIDAY

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



MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY

Oct. 3 • 4:30 PM • Mass for the People

SUNDAY

Oct. 4 • 8:00 AM • Dick Zapf
Oct. 4 • 9:30 AM • Jean Knobbe

TUESDAY

Oct. 6 • 5:30 PM • Crosier family

WEDNESDAY

Oct. 7 • 8:00 AM • Ed Dorsett & family

THURSDAY

Oct. 8 • 8:00 AM • Johnny & Catherine Vogel family

FRIDAY

Oct. 9 • 8:00 AM • Deceased members of Bradford family

SATURDAY

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

SUNDAY

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

TUESDAY

Oct. 13 • 5:30 PM • Crosier family

WEDNESDAY

Oct. 14 • 8:00 AM • Darlene Finnegan

THURSDAY

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

FRIDAY

Oct. 16 • 8:00 AM • Spencer Sloss



PARISH CONTACTS

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

Parish Office
641-747-3843

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

Business Manager
Geri Thompson
stcstmstp@netins.net

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

Religious Education
Jamie Terwilliger
stmpcdre@gmail.com

Cemetery Groundskeeper & Coordinator
Justin Downing
515-250-8988

Sacraments
Contact the Rectory in advance for marriage & baptism arrangements

Chaplet of Divine Mercy

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