

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

August 23 & 24, 2025

CONTACT information



Fr. Ray Higgins - Please reach him on rectory number

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

Rectory - (641) 747-2569

Office - (641) 747-3843

Web - <https://st-mary-patrick-cecilia.com/>

Business Manager:

Geri Thompson - stcstmstp@netins.net

Parish Secretary:

Misean Hernandez - stmpcsecretary@outlook.com

Director of Religious Education:

Jamie Carlson - stmpcdre@gmail.com

Cemetery Grounds Keeper and Coordinator

Chris Downing - (641) 740-7943

Justin Downing - (515) 250-8988

Sacramental Emergencies

In the event of an emergency, please contact Fr. Ray Higgins at (641) 747-2569 for the emergency number.

Sacrament Guidelines:

Contact the Rectory to make arrangements prior to marriage and baptismal sacraments.

Bulletin Announcements:

Send bulletin announcements to Misean at stmpcsecretary@outlook.com by 8PM Tuesday.



PARISH announcements

Summer Mass time added!!!

6:30PM Mass time at St. Cecilia's in Panorama during the summer will end Labor day weekend. August 30th will be the last 6:30

ADULT FAITH SESSION DATES:

September 17th at 6:30PM- St. Mary's hall

All parishioners welcome to attend.

St. Cecilia's Chicken Dinner

Are you ready for some good chicken? Mark your calendars for Sunday, October 5th to attend St. Cecilia's chicken dinner!! Please we need your help and spread the word!



St. Mary's RE

St. Mary's Religious Education classes will be held on Wednesdays from 5:30 PM - 6:30 PM this year. Dates will be sent out at a later time. If you would be willing to teach or would like more information, please contact Jamie Carlson at stmpcdre@gmail.com. We are looking for teachers that can teach all the time, every other time, or even be a substitute.



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,

In today's Gospel, someone asks Jesus: "Lord, will only a few people be saved?" (Luke 13:23). Instead of giving numbers, Jesus turns the question back on us: "Strive to enter through the narrow gate."

This "narrow gate" is not about God making heaven exclusive, but about reminding us that discipleship is not easy. Following Christ is more than saying we know Him or showing up occasionally—it's about daily living with faith, integrity, forgiveness, compassion, and perseverance. The narrow gate means choosing God's ways when the wider road of comfort, indifference, or selfishness looks easier.

The significance is clear: salvation is not automatic, but a response to God's grace. The Lord calls each of us to live in such a way that our hearts are open, our lives are authentic, and our love is sincere.

Takeaway to Ponder:

- Am I walking through the "narrow gate" in my daily choices?
- Do my words and actions show that I know Christ personally—or only from a distance?
- What changes do I need to make so that my faith is not only professed, but lived?

This Gospel matters because it challenges us to live without complacency. Heaven is real, eternity is real, and how we live today shapes who we become for eternity. Jesus assures us: those who strive, those who trust in His grace, will not be disappointed.

Parish Life Update

As Labor Day approaches, we mark the close of summer. With that, our Saturday 6:30 pm summer Mass in Panora will end after August 30. I want to thank all who attended and served at these liturgies. They have been a blessing throughout the summer months.

As we turn the corner into fall, may we each recommit to walking through the narrow gate together as a parish family—encouraging one another in prayer, faith, and works of charity.

In Christ,

Fr. Ray Higgins

UPCOMING events



Candle Light Rosary

Help us in praying for our country, peace in the world and to ask blessing on the new school year.

Sunday, September 7, 2025 at 7PM

The Grotto of Domus Trinitatis

24750 Noble Ave.

Carroll, Iowa

Please bring lawn chairs.



*We will move indoor if weather is poor

Do you know a couple who have been married 70, 75 or more years? Worldwide Marriage Encounter highlights and honors couples who have very long marriages. Every state in the US will honor one nominated couple who is married the longest. Please nominate a couple by going to wwme.org and nominate them at the top of the page. Nominations should be in by September 1st.

For questions call 641-753-6953.

Married Couples. Would you like to relive the excitement, romance and passion from your honeymoon? Rekindle that spark on a World-wide Marriage Encounter Weekend. For more information call 563-920-9419 or you can sign up at wwme.org. Upcoming dates are September 12-14 and February 13-15, 2026 both in Dubuque, Iowa. Sign up soon as space is limited.



St. Mary's Food Drive

We will have a food pantry due the month of September. Please, please any canned or other non-perishable items in the box in the vestibule of the church.

If you wish to donate money, checks should be made out to the First Presbyterian Church with "food pantry" on the memo line. Please contact Judy Bauler if you have any questions.

Thank you for your generosity.



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



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 calendar

Saturday

4:00 PM Confessions, Bayard
4:05 PM First Saturday Rosary, Bayard
4:15 PM Divine Mercy, Bayard
4:30 PM Mass, Bayard
6:30 PM Mass, Panora
7:30 PM Confessions, Panora

Sunday

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

Monday

No Mass

Tuesday

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

Wednesday

7:45 AM Confessions & Divine Mercy, Panora
8:00 AM Mass, Panora
9:00 AM Prayer Group, Panora
4:00 PM Adoration, Guthrie Center

Thursday

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

Friday

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

All Parish Reminder for Weekly Offerings

Offerings can go directly to the general fund, the building fund, cemetery or ADA.

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

MASS intentions



Sat., August 23 at 4:30 PM — Mass for the People
Sat., August 23 at 6:30 PM — Novena for Holy Souls
Sun., August 24 at 8:00 AM — Alan Nagel
Sun., August 24 at 9:30 AM — TJ Redfern
Tues., August 26 at 5:30 PM — Crosier Family
Wed., August 27 at 8:00 AM — Orville Leinen
Thurs., August 28 at 8:00 AM — Don & Joan Staver Family
Fri., August 29 at 8:00 AM — Marietta Alesch & her family

Sat., August 30 at 4:30 PM — Carlene Murrane Family & Matt Murrane

Sat., August 30 at 6:30 PM — Novena for Holy Souls
Sun., August 31 at 8:00 AM — Mass for the People
Sun., August 31 at 9:30 AM — Baylee Tews
Tues., September 2 at 5:30 PM — Kenny Ludwig
Wed., September 3 at 8:00 AM — Brennen Cox
Thurs., September 4 at 8:00 AM — Jerry Suther
Fri., September 5 at 8:00 AM — Marvin Finnegan

Chaplet of Divine Mercy Closing Prayer

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

WEEKLY offerings



St. Cecilia Weekly Offering

Sunday weekly offering— \$1,655
ADA Goal \$24,220 ADA Balance Due \$7,350

St. Mary Weekly Offering

Sunday weekly offering— \$871.50
ADA Goal \$15,849 ADA Balance Due \$1,639

St. Patrick Weekly Offering

Sunday weekly offering— \$730.16
ADA Goal \$11,272 ADA Balance Due \$2,022