

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

January 24 & 25, 2025

CONTACT information



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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.



ST. CECILIA PARISH
220 N 1ST ST.
PANORA, IA 50216



ST. MARY PARISH
603 MAIN STREET
GUTHRIE CENTER, IA 50115



ST. PATRICK PARISH
214 PRAIRIE STREET
BAYARD, IA 50029

PARISH announcements



Lenten Retreat Dates at St. Patrick's Church

Feb 23 & 24, 2026

Featuring Josh Mazrin

Joshua Mazrin is the founder and Executive Director of the Immaculata Institute, an organization which seeks to continue St. Maximilian Kolbe's mission of extending the Blessed Kingdom of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus as far as possible, as soon as possible, through winning over all souls to the Immaculata. The Immaculata Institute offers resources for dioceses, parishes, faith formation groups, and individuals, helping those consecrate themselves to the Immaculata.

www.immaculatainstitute.org

Topics will include Crushing the Head of the Serpent: Marian Consecration as Spiritual Warfare & How to Pray Without Ceasing



HOLY DAY mass times

Ash Wednesday- February 18

St. Cecilia- 8AM

St. Mary- 5:30PM

St. Patrick- 7PM

Ash
Wednesday

FROM THE DESK OF

Fr. Ray Higgins



Dear Parish Family,

Last week, we learned a simple way to pray with Scripture-Lectio Divina. This week, I want to share another ancient way to understand God's Word, called The Four Senses of Scripture. This approach shows how one Gospel passage can speak to our minds, our choices, and our hope for heaven, no matter where we come from—whether rural, small-town, or from the lake community.

The Gospel this Sunday is Matthew 4:12–23, where Jesus begins His public ministry and calls His first disciples with the words: “Come after me.”

Let's look at that through the Four Senses.

1. The Literal Sense — “What's actually going on?” Jesus leaves Nazareth after John the Baptist is arrested and moves to Capernaum. He fulfills Isaiah's prophecy about a great light shining on people who sit in darkness. He begins preaching: “Repent, for the Kingdom of heaven is at hand.” He calls Simon Peter, Andrew, James, and John. They are working fishermen, repairing nets, running family businesses, and trying to make ends meet. They leave their nets and follow Him. Jesus travels throughout Galilee teaching, preaching, and healing. No halos, no platforms, no spotlight. Just real people with work, families, and concerns.

2. The Allegorical Sense — “Where is Christ and His Church?” Christ is the Light who breaks into ordinary life. His call is the beginning of the Church's mission. The disciples' boats and nets become symbols of what the Church will do. The Church casts the nets of the Gospel into the world to gather souls into God's Kingdom. What started on a shoreline in Galilee has become the Church's mission, which still reaches small towns, rural communities, and lake houses today.

3. The Moral Sense — “What is being asked of me?” This is where most of us lean in, because we naturally ask: “What does **‘Come after me’** really mean, and what must I do?” Following Jesus doesn't mean we have to be perfect, overly religious, or suddenly excited. It means four practical things: **(1) Let Jesus set the direction** Most of us try to fit God into our own plans. But following Jesus means letting Him lead and asking: “Lord, what do You want from me today?” **(2) Don't go alone** Jesus never calls people to be alone. Discipleship happens in His Body, the Church. For some, that means coming back to church. For others, it means going deeper in faith. **(3) Take one small step** The disciples didn't know the whole journey ahead. They just took the next step. For us, that could mean: • praying, even briefly, • forgiving someone, • receiving the Sacraments, • serving someone quietly, • inviting someone to return to faith, • or carving out 1% more time for God. **(4) Let go of the “nets.”** The disciples left their nets behind. Today, our nets might look like: • fear, • cynicism, • resentment, • busyness, • screens and noise, • the belief that “I'm doing fine without God,” • or the feeling that “I don't matter enough to bother.” Notice, Jesus doesn't shame the disciples for having nets. He just doesn't let the nets keep them on the shore. Whether we work long hours in the field, run small-town businesses, or spend weekends at the lake, the question is the same: What net is keeping me from taking the next step with Christ?

4. The Anagogical Sense — “Where is this going?” The disciples’ “yes” doesn’t end on the lake shore. It leads toward: • communion, • mission, • resurrection, • and finally heaven. The light that breaks into Galilee anticipates the eternal light of the Kingdom, where darkness, rivalry, burnout, and death are no more. This lifts Christianity beyond just surviving, succeeding, or improving ourselves. It gives our lives, whether rural or at the lake, comfortable or challenging, eternal meaning.

One Core Message

Christ steps into ordinary life, into boats and barns, offices and lake houses, and calls us to discipleship, mission, and eternal purpose.

For Prayer This Week

- Where do I feel “in the dark” and need Christ’s light?
 - What net is keeping me from following Him?
 - What small step could I take this week?
 - Where do I need to stop going alone?
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Before next Sunday, try reading the Gospel once this week. There’s no pressure to feel anything. Just give Jesus space to say, “Come after me.”

Because in the Gospels, Jesus didn’t go looking for the perfect.

He went looking for the willing.

And He still does.

In Christ,

Fr. Ray Higgins



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
(Formally Wells Fargo Arena)

Married Couples. Would you like to relive the excitement, romance and passion from your honeymoon? Rekindle that spark on a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. For more information call Denise and Greg at 563-920-9419 or sign up at wwme.org. Upcoming experiences are February 13-15 in Dubuque, April 10-12 in Marshalltown and October 9-11 in Epworth.





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
3:30 PM Adoration, Guthrie Center (TIME CHANGE)

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 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.

MASS intentions



Sat., January 24 at 4:30 PM — Kay Vaux
Sun., January 25 at 8:00 AM — Living & deceased members of Leon & Donna Kennebeck families
Sun., January 25 at 9:30 AM — George & Miranda, Meritza, Ralpher
Tues., January 27 at 5:30 PM — Kenny Ludwig
Wed., January 28 at 8:00 AM — Deceased members of Higgins Family
Thurs., January 29 at 8:00 AM — Joe & Joyce Louis & Family
Fri., January 30 at 8:00 AM — Joann Reil

Sat., January 31 at 4:30 PM — Mass for the People
Sun., February 1 at 8:00 AM — Brennen Cox
Sun., February 1 at 9:30 AM — Deceased family members of Kevin & Peggy Dentlinger
Tues., February 3 at 5:30 PM — Seidl Family
Wed., February 4 at 8:00 AM — Eddie Dorsett & Family
Thurs., February 5 at 8:00 AM — Fr. Ray Higgins
Fri., February 6 at 8:00 AM — Paul & Agatha Sailer

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— \$1,491

St. Mary Weekly Offering

Sunday weekly offering— \$1,358

St. Patrick Weekly Offering

Sunday weekly offering— \$590

****All ADA PAID IN FULL****