

Parish Social Ministries

Student Supper Ministry

Thank you to everyone who supported our Student Suppers. Signup sheet for next semester is on the table in the gathering area. Thank you again for your support!

Linens Volunteers

December: Linda Lowe
Schedule not completed

Bread Bakers

Schedule not completed

Money Counters

Dec 15: Kristi Ryan & Sue Meimann
Dec 22: Pat Carruthers-Green & Raelynn Trigoutis
Dec 29: Pat Carruthers-Green & Larry James

Coffee and Donut Hosts

Dec 15: Carruthers-Green & Bellville families
Dec 22: Fisher family
Dec 29: Gongol family

Food Pantry

The Donation of the Month are items for **Pasta and Dried noodles**. Please leave your non-perishable food items in the gathering space. Envelopes for cash donations are available on the table outside the office.

Stewardship Corner

Thank you for your financial support of St. Catherine's ministry. The donations for the week of Dec 8th we received \$2,506.

Contact the office if you would like the ACH form or check our website to support by online giving.

Bulletin Items

Please submit bulletin announcement requests to office@stcatherinedrake.org by Wednesday at 11:00 am.



Music

Entrance: O Come, O Come, Emmanuel #38

Psalm: Lord, come and save us.

Presentation: Patience, People #47

Communion: Bread for the World #343

Closing: Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus #39

Saturday 5:00 p.m

Seth Hammond, Adam Poole, Samantha Poole, Sally Diehl

Sunday 10:30 a.m

Adults



Parish Staff

Rev. Protas O. Okwalo, Pastor

Rev. Mr. Rick Condon, Deacon

Teresa Smith, Office Manager

Bob Van Gilder, Business Manager

Erin Smith, Coordinator of Campus Ministry

Dennis & Melinda Hendrickson, Music Coordinators

Dave & Sheila Lingwall, Liturgy Coordinators

Teresa Laird, Family Faith Formation Director

Gus & Dee Cordero, Deaf Ministry



St. Catherine of Siena

Catholic Church and Student Center
Drake Newman Community

1150 28th St. • Des Moines, IA 50311
515.271.4747 • www.stcatherinedrake.org

The Catholic Parish on the campus of Drake University



Third Sunday of Advent • December 15, 2019



PRAYER OF ST CATHERINE

*Power of the eternal Father,
Wisdom of your only-begotten Son,
Clemency of the Holy Spirit,
fire and deep well of charity,
You know how,
and you are able,
and it is your will,
so I plead with you:
have mercy on the world,
and restore the warmth of charity
and peace
and unity
to Holy Church.
I do not wish you to delay any longer.
I beg you
to let your infinite goodness
constrain you
not to close the eye of your mercy!*

St. Catherine of Siena, Pray for us!!

COMING UP ROSES

"They will meet with joy and gladness, sorrow and mourning will flee." —Isaiah 35:10

In the Catholic community, we call today "Gaudete Sunday," meaning "Rejoice Sunday." We rejoice because the Lord's Christmas coming is near. Our priests wear rose vestments today to express our exuberant joy. We are flushed with joy because the world's dire circumstances are overshadowed by God's presence. In the shadow of His wings, we shout for joy (Ps 63:8). We rejoice not in the circumstances but in the Lord of the circumstances (Phil 4:4). We rejoice because God is with us (Is 7:14; Mt 1:23).

"Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever" (Heb 13:8). "The blind recover their sight, cripples walk, lepers are cured, the deaf hear, dead men are raised to life, and the poor have the good news preached to them" (Mt 11:5). "Despite the increase of sin, grace has far surpassed it" (Rm 5:20). Therefore, "be patient," my brothers and sisters, "until the coming of the Lord" (Jas 5:7). "You may for a time have to suffer the distress of many trials; but this is so that your faith, which is more precious than the passing splendor of fire-tried gold, may by its genuineness lead to praise, glory, and honor when Jesus Christ appears" (1 Pt 1:6-7).

PRAYER: Father, may the joy inside me rise to fever pitch (Acts 8:8).

PROMISE: "The desert and the parched land will exult; the steppe will rejoice and bloom. They will bloom with abundant flowers, and rejoice with joyful song." —Is 35:1-2

PRAISE: Thank You, Jesus! You were mocked, spit upon, scourged and put to death. Just as You promised, You rose on the third day (see Mk 10:34). Glory to You forever!

mycatholic.com/reflections/

Parish Mission Statement

St. Catherine of Siena Catholic Church and Student Center is a spiritual "home away from home" for Drake University students and resident parishioners. We strive through worship, prayer, fellowship, bible study and service to be disciples of Jesus and leaders of the Catholic Church and Community.

St. Catherine of Siena Catholic Church and Student Center

Rejoice in the Lord Always

Signs of hope, joy, new life and fulfillment of promise characterize the message of this Sunday. Last Sunday the readings focused on a peaceful kingdom in the future, when the wolf and the lamb would lie down beside each other. This Third Sunday of Advent is called Gaudete Sunday – Rejoice Sunday. We are invited to pause and rejoice. We are told that salvation is near; the Messiah is in our midst. The Sunday takes its name from the opening words of the Entrance Antiphon of this Sunday taken from Paul's Letter to the Philippians which begins with Gaudete in Domino semper ("Rejoice in the Lord always"). That is why today we light a pink candle symbolizing joy because our salvation is already here in our midst.

In the first reading, the prophet Isaiah announces to the people in exile that the Messiah will come; their situation is about to change; they will soon be free to go back home. Isaiah shows the people a poetic picture of how the desert will become fertile and all the foliage will sing out the goodness and glory of God. Then in the final section, the reading recounts how the change will affect those who long for salvation; those who look for real joy and happiness. There would be nothing as joyful as a blind person seeing, nothing as beautiful as a deaf person hearing; nothing as uplifting as a lame person walking and a mute speaking. The reading therefore invites us to rejoice because the promised Messiah is coming soon to make that vision a reality; to bring real joy and happiness into our lives. In the Second reading from the Letter of James, we hear the same message: "Make your hearts firm, because the coming of the Lord is at hand."

The Gospel starts with John the Baptist in prison. John sends his disciples to ask Jesus whether he is really the Messiah or would there be another to come. Jesus refers to what Isaiah had prophesied in today's First Reading and says that there is no need to keep waiting for salvation. It is already in our midst. There are already clear signs of joy, hope, and new life. Jesus tells the messengers: "Go back and tell John what you hear and see; the blind see again, the lame walk, and the Good News is proclaimed to the poor". That is why we need not wait. That is why we need to rejoice and be happy. The deeper question we need to ask this Sunday is what constitutes real joy and happiness in our lives? Is it to be found in material possessions? Material possessions, no matter how cool, never give lasting satisfaction and joy. That is why St. Augustine once said: Our heart is restless until it rests in God. Let us pray that the Lord may open our eyes and ears of faith to see and hear what Jesus is already doing in our midst; that we may go and tell others what we have seen and heard.

Msgr John S. Mbinda

Welcome to St. Catherine of Siena Catholic Church and Student Center

New parishioners and students are asked to register online at stcatherinedrake.org or by contacting the parish office. Please notify the parish office when moving or with a change of phone number, address or email. **In case of an emergency after hours, please call 515-771-6463**

Liturgical Ministers

Sunday, Dec 15

Liturgical Coordinator: Brian Gongol
Lectors: Tonya Swanda, Mary-Claire Uselding, Jeff Bakke
Eucharistic Ministers: Amanda Bellville, Francisca Bodensteiner, Laura Carruthers-Green, Sharon Clarke
Ushers: Greg Bellville, Jim Deal

Sunday, Dec 22

Liturgical Coordinator: Kristi Ryan
Lectors: Amanda & Greg Bellville, Edward Bodensteiner
Eucharistic Ministers: Traci Dragoo, Jen Faber, Shirley Harris, Bob Heles
Ushers: Shirley Harris, Jan Wise

Calendar

16 Monday:	5:15pm Communion Service
17 Tuesday:	5:15pm Mass
18 Wednesday:	8:30am Quilting Queens 5:15pm Mass 7:00pm AFF- "Barking to the Choir"
19 Thursday:	5:15pm Mass
20 Friday:	12:00pm Mass
21 Saturday:	4:00pm Reconciliation 5:00pm Mass
22 Sunday:	10:30am Mass 8:00pm Mass

Find world-wide Mass times at www.masstimes.org

Please pray for our parishioners and any and all others who are suffering from injury or illness

Campus Ministry (CM) DU Bulldog Catholic

Parish News

Job Opening

We are seeking a part-time Business Manager. This position includes financial management and facility management responsibilities. Accounting knowledge and experience is essential. The job description is posted on our website. Please send cover letter, resume and references to office@stcatherinedrake.org.

Family Faith Formation (FFF)

The service project for Family Faith Formation (FFF) this year was to make Blessing Bags. We used two-gallon Zip-Loc storage bags and filled them with items such as toothbrushes, soap, shampoo, granola bars and water bottles that were donated by our FFF families. These bags can then be given to homeless individuals wherever we might encounter them. If you want to learn more about Blessing Bags, contact FFF director Teresa Laird at [laird.teresa@yahoo.com](mailto:teresa@yahoo.com).

Cookie Donations

Our Confirmation class is collecting Cookies for the Central Iowa Shelter on Dec. 14 and 15. St. Catherine of Siena parishioners have been so generous for the last two cookie collections. The cookies may be store bought or homemade. The homeless of Des Moines who attend their dinners benefit from the kindness of those who provide these cookies. We are helping to serve the meal on Tues, Dec. 17. Thank you so much for your generous donations. Please contact Greg Scwager at 274-0830 for more information.

ADA

Please prayerfully consider donating to the Annual Diocesan Appeal. Our ADA goal this year is \$38,821. We have collected \$28,375. We have a balance of \$10,446. Whatever goes unpaid will be paid for thru our tithing.

Christmas Mass
Please join us as we celebrate
Christmas on Tuesday,
December 24 at 5:00pm. Music
prelude at 4:45pm

RCIA

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults is a process developed by the Catholic Church for prospective converts to Catholicism who are above the age of infant baptism. Candidates are gradually introduced to aspects of Catholic beliefs and practices. If you know someone who would like to learn more about the process and/or begin classes, please contact Jenny Condon at jennycondon89@gmail.com or 779-9347

Second Collection

We will be taking a second collection for Retirement Fund for Religious. Please give generously as this directly effects one of our own.

Annual Christmas Songfest

Dec 15 from 2 pm to 5 pm at the Fishers, West Grand Towers, 3663 Grand Ave, #303. Everyone is welcome. This is a great opportunity for students to get acquainted with parishioners and to make local contacts. You need not be able to sing or play an instrument. We will provide text and music for the songs and carols and family members bring more than enough snacks for everybody. Students are free to bring friends but need not bring snacks. Parking suggestions are included in the flyers available on the table in the gathering area. Call Rita or Tom Fisher 255-7343 with any questions.

Living Faith

Daily devotional are available outside the office. Small donation is suggested.

Christmas Poinsettia Donations

If you would like to donate a memorial for Christmas flowers please use the envelopes outside the office and place in the offertory basket.

Around the Diocese

Help

Catholic Charities Refugee Resettlement Program needs your help with household supplies as they set up initial housing for refugee families. Most needed are bedding, laundry detergent, all purpose cleaner, toilet paper, paper towels and dishwashing liquid. If you or your group can help, contact Sinishaw at 515-393-5231 or siticha@catholiccharitiesdm.org

Concert

Sun, Dec 22, 3pm, St. Ambrose Cathedral. *Umeri*, a choir of young Drake University alumni conducted by Aimee Beckmann-Collier, will present *The Lessons, Reflections, and Carols of Christmas*, a concert featuring Scripture readings, reflections written by Dr. Charles Anthony Silvestri, choral music, and carol singing by the audience. There is no admission charge. A freewill offering will be taken. For further information, contact aimee. beckmann-collier@drake.edu

Mass Intentions

Mass may be offered for your intention or on someone's behalf. Please contact the office for available dates.
5:00pm For the Parish
10:30am For the Parish
5:00pm For the Students

Sacraments

Reconciliation
Saturdays 4-4:50pm or by appointment

Baptism

Please call the Parish Office to set up an appointment. Parents are required to participate in the Baptism Preparation Program.

Matrimony

Please contact the Parish Office at least 6-8 months in advance of the proposed wedding date to allow for completion of required marriage preparations.

Parish Meetings

Parish Council: Second Wednesday every month at 6pm. Members: Laura Carruthers-Green, Greg Bellville, Ann Gernes, Margaret Hanson, Gus Cordero, Ryan Wise