

Parish Social Ministries

Student Supper Ministry

Dec 8: Diocese of Des Moines-Evangelization Dept

Linens Volunteers

December: Linda Lowe

Bread Bakers

Dec 8: Brian Smith

Money Counters

Dec 8: Jim Greenfield & Annette Roth

Dec 15: Kristi Ryan & Raelynn Trigoutis

Dec 22: Pat Carruthers-Green & Raelynn Trigoutis

Coffee and Donut Hosts

Dec 8: Faber family

Dec 15: Carruthers-Green & Bellville families

Dec 22: Fisher 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 1st we received \$6,118.

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: The Advent of Our King #57

Psalm: Justice shall flourish in his time,
and fullness of peace forever.

Presentation: Comfort, Comfort, O My People #58

Communion: A Place at Your Table #349

Closing: Emmanuel #56

Saturday 5:00 p.m

Cole Strelecki, Emily Goebel, Sonya Benzmiller,
Emily Freier

Sunday 10:30 a.m

Adam Poole, Samantha Poole, Macy Nassaman,
Amina Marquart

Sunday 5:00 p.m

Robert Schroeder, Natalie Novak, William Krane, Anne
Furman, Kaylin Vos, David Rosaschi, Megan Guest,
Kabrina Brady, Trevin Detwiler, Lauren Barta, Peyton
Braun, Amina Marquart, Faith Satern, Lauren Carroll,
Caitlyn Hocraffer, Carter Holm

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



Second Sunday of Advent • December 8, 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!!

ADVENT TO THE MAX

"...a herald's voice in the desert: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight His paths.'" —Matthew 3:3

The purpose of Advent is to prepare the way of the Lord, Who is coming to us in a new personal way this Christmas season. But there are different kinds and degrees of preparation. The Church teaches with John the Baptist that our preparation for Christ's coming this Christmas needs to be very extensive. We even need a baptism of repentance, that is, to be immersed in repentance (see Mt 3:11).

Our preparation for Christ this Christmas is comparable to a major excavation where mountains are made low and the fill dirt is used to fill in the valleys so as to make a rough road smooth and a crooked road straight (Lk 3:5). While the world gives us the picture of Santa Claus with a bag of presents, the Church presents the scene of the wild prophet, John the Baptist, driving a Komatsu super earth-mover to bury our sins.

Very few of us believe that Christmas is so great and we are so sinful as to require such an earthquake of preparation. However, the Church is right. We need a big Advent to have a true Christmas.

PRAYER: Father, send the Holy Spirit so that I will not minimize but maximize Advent.

PROMISE: "The Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon Him: a spirit of wisdom and of understanding, a spirit of counsel and of strength, a spirit of knowledge and of fear of the Lord." —Is 11:2

PRAISE: "God freed him from death's bitter pangs, however, and raised him up again, for it was impossible that death should keep its hold on him" (Acts 2:24). Alleluia!

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

Called to Repentance

In this week's Gospel Reading and next week's, our Advent preparation for Christmas invites us to consider John the Baptist and his relationship to Jesus. In this week's Gospel, Matthew describes the work and preaching of John the Baptist.

John the Baptist appears in the tradition of the great prophets of Israel, preaching repentance and reform to the people of Israel. In fact, the description of John found in this reading is reminiscent of the description of the prophet Elijah (2 Kings 1:8). In this reading, John directs a particularly pointed call to repentance to the Pharisees and Sadducees, parties within the Jewish community of the first century.

John marks the conversion of those who seek him out with a baptism of repentance. Other groups in this period are thought to have practiced ritual washings for similar purposes, and John's baptism may have been related to the practices of the Essenes, a Jewish sect of the first century. John's baptism can be understood as an anticipation of Christian baptism. In this passage, John himself alludes to the difference between his baptism and the one yet to come: "I am baptizing you with water, for repentance . . . He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire." (Matthew 3:11).

In this reading, John makes very clear that his relationship to the Messiah yet to come (Jesus) is one of service and subservience: ". . . the one who is coming after me is mightier than I. I am not worthy to carry his sandals" (Matthew 3:11). In the context of Matthew's Gospel, today's passage is followed by Jesus' baptism by John, an event that is attested to in all four of the Gospels and appears to have been the start of Jesus' public ministry.

John's preaching of the coming of the Lord is a key theme of the Advent season. As John's message prepared the way for Jesus in the first century, we, too, are called to prepare ourselves for Jesus' coming. We respond to John's message by our repentance and reform of our lives. We are also called to be prophets of Christ, who announce by our lives, as John did, the coming of the Lord.

Loyola Press

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 1

Liturgical Coordinator: Margaret Hanson
Lectors: Deb Rogers, Kristi Ryan
Eucharistic Ministers: Kristi Ryan, Greg Bellville, Edward Bodensteiner, Pat Bonz
Ushers: Art Hessburg, Eunice Owusu-Anokye

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

Calendar

Finals Week for Drake

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|---------------|---|
| 9 Monday: | 5:15pm Mass-Immaculate Conception
6:00pm Rental
9:30pm Finals Breakfast |
| 10 Tuesday: | 5:15pm Mass |
| 11 Wednesday: | 5:15pm Mass
6:00pm Parish Council
7:00pm AFF- "Barking to the Choir" |
| 12 Thursday: | 12:30pm Faith Movie-closed caption
5:15pm Mass |
| 13 Friday: | 12:00pm Mass |
| 14 Saturday: | 4:00pm Reconciliation
5:00pm Mass |
| 15 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

Student hosting

Parishioners who are open to hosting students for a meal or activity over school breaks, please email Erin at campusminister@stcatherinedrake.org

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)

Hi everyone! Thank you for a wonderful class this morning. We will not be meeting again until early February. I hope you have a wonderful Christmas and New Year. See you soon!

Immaculate Conception

The feast of the Immaculate Conception will be celebrated on Monday, December 9. We will have Mass at 5:15pm

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 Swager 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 \$26,575. We have a balance of \$12,246. Whatever goes unpaid will be paid for thru our tithing.

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 next weekend 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.

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.

Advent Wreath Lighting

Please use sign up sheets in the gathering area to volunteer to say a prayer and light the Advent wreath at the beginning of Mass during Advent.

Coat Drive

Will continue the coat drive until Christmas. School aged sizes will go to Stowe Elementary on the eastside and all others will go to Catholic Charities for refugees. Contact Barb James at 491-8001 or Mike Larson at mike.larson@drake.edu with any questions. Thank you for your generosity!

Around the Diocese

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

Emmaus House

Emmaus House has a few upcoming Advent offerings. If interested in attending the Advent Evening of Reflection or Advent Retreat Day, please register soon via our website. Although online registration is not required for the Advent Taizé Service, we invite you to email kevin@theemmaushouse.org to RSVP so that we know how many plan to attend.

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