



St. Catherine of Siena

Catholic Church and Student Center

Fifth Sunday of Lent • March 26, 2023



March Encounter: Praying with Catholic Spiritualities (Part 2: Benedictine Spirituality)



On Sunday, March 19th, around seventy members of St. Catherine’s came together for Encounter. Encounter is a parish-wide faith formation opportunity for everyone of all ages and stages of life. Encounter is not just faith formation for families with kids; it’s for everyone and all are always welcome.

The theme of March’s Encounter was Praying with Catholic Spiritualities (Part 2: Benedictine Spirituality). St. Catherine’s is blessed to have two Benedictine oblates among its members, Aimee Beckmann-Collier and Brian Smith, both of whom happen to also serve on the Encounter Curriculum Planning Committee. They were instrumental in the preparation for this month’s session, as well as serving as speakers for the adult and 6th-12th grade sessions.

The whole session began with a large-group activity to learn a bit more about the life of St. Benedict, Three Truths & a Fib. Turns out it was hard to find the fib at times since St. Benedict has many interesting stories attributed to him! During the adult session, Aimee shared an overview on St. Benedict and the time in which he lived, as well as Benedictine values, such as community, listening, hospitality, sense of place, humility, and moderation, before concluding in prayer. The young children through 5th grade read a book about St. Benedict and his twin sister, St. Scholastica and participated in Lectio Divina, where they listened to and prayed the Scripture verse, Matthew 25:34-40. They also talked about how there are many ways to grow closer to God, including the Benedictine values of listening, hospitality, and community. Brian Smith led the 6th-12th grade students in considering the analogy of Benedictine life being similar to that of a family; both have rules, roles, rituals, work done together, prayer, and common values.

We look forward to welcoming everyone for our next Encounter on Sunday, April 16th, where the theme will be Praying During the Easter Season.

PARISH STAFF

- Rev. Protas Okwalo**
Pastor
- Fr. Emmanuel Offiong**
Weekend Pastoral Associate
- Fr. George Komo**
Campus & African Community Ministries Associate
- Rev. Mr. Rick Condon**
Deacon
- Lyrío Cloma-Read**
Office Manager
- Jan Blessum**
Business Manager
- Erin Smith**
Coordinator of Campus Ministry
- Dennis & Melinda Hendrickson**
Music Coordinators
- Gus and Dee Cordero**
Deaf Ministry Coordinators
- Dave & Sheila Lingwall**
Liturgical Coordinators
- Laura Catherine Carruthers-Green**
Faith Formation Coordinator

PARISH COUNCIL

- Aimee Beckmann-Collier**
Chair
- John Chesser**
- Gus Cordero**
- Rosemarie Kroner**
- Catherine Lucas**
- Robert Ebow McEwan**
- Mark Schmidt**
- Alexia Simonton**

FINANCE COUNCIL

- Brendan Comito**
Chair
- Patrick Carruthers-Green**
- Abby Crupi**
- Larry James**
- Annette Roth**
- Kristi Ryan**

MASS TIMES

- WEEKDAYS
 - Monday:** 5:15 PM
(Communion Service)
 - Tuesday-Thursday:** 5:15 PM
 - Friday:** 12 NOON
- WEEKENDS
 - Saturday:** 5 PM
 - Sunday:** 10:30 AM: 5 PM
 - African Mass:** 2 PM
3rd Sunday in English;
other Sundays in Kiswahili
 - Last chance Mass:** 8 PM

ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA Catholic Parish and Student Center
1150 28th St., Des Moines, IA 50311
office@stcatherinedrake.org • 515.650.8646

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

New parishioners and students are invited to register online at stcatherinedrake.org or by contacting the parish office. Please notify the parish office when moving or with change in phone number, address or email.

Campus Ministry

Spring Break Mission Trip to Peru by Matt Prendergast (FOCUS Missionary)

During spring break, Kate and I, three other FOCUS Missionaries, and a national chaplain for FOCUS led a group of fourteen students (including 7 students from Drake/St. Catherine's) on a mission trip to a small town a few hours south of Lima, Peru, called Nuevo Ayacucho. It is built on flat desert land between the Pacific Ocean and the foothills of the Andes Mountains. Though we were surrounded by significant material poverty, we were overwhelmed with gratitude for the many ways in which we were welcomed with great joy and love. Our group spent the week immersed in the community and their church as we started each day together praying a Holy hour in adoration, celebrated Mass, shared many meals, and spent quality time in fellowship through singing, dancing, soccer, other games, and countless laughs. The men of our group worked with the town's priest and the men of the community on various construction projects such as building a large room and roof behind the church to be used for catechesis, dining, and to host more people for Mass. The women taught English to many of the children and adults in the town while also helping cook and serve many of the delicious meals. Throughout the week, all of our hearts were deeply moved by encountering the Love of Christ in all that we did. It was beautiful to see the students give of themselves in charity and serve as the Lord calls us to do. This mission trip is one that we will never forget, and we are excited to share our experiences with the Drake/St. Catherine's community.



David Robinson Annual Scholarship Award

The David Robinson Annual Scholarship Award was established in 2013 in honor of Dr. David Robinson, Drake Physics Professor, who died on February 3, 2012. The goal is to foster student leadership through service and/or the community life of St. Catherine of Siena, Drake Newman Community. It is awarded to Drake University students registered and active at St. Catherine of Siena Catholic Church and Student Center.

Each year, the David Robinson Scholarship gives up to \$5,000 for the purpose of paying the student's educational expenses. The application form is available on our website. Applications are accepted until April 14, 2023. Students may send their applications to:

St. Catherine of Siena Catholic
Church & Student Center
Attn: Scholarship
1150 28th St
Des Moines, IA 50311
or office@stcatherinedrake.org

CDA Court Ave Maria #302 will award two \$500 education scholarships for use in 2023. One scholarship will be awarded to an individual graduating as a high school senior Class of 2023 and the other scholarship will be awarded to an individual considered a Non-Traditional Student defined as a Post High School student. Application is April 30, 2023. Each scholarship application form contains the criteria and requirements for submission.

www.iowacatholicdaughters.org/ct-ave-maria-302-des-moines

Parish Life & More

The Triduum

We are approaching the most beautiful and meaningful liturgies of the church year—the Triduum. We invite you to participate in all of these powerful rites:

Holy Thursday – April 6, 7:00 pm – features washing of the feet

Good Friday – April 7, 7:00 pm – features veneration of the cross

Easter Vigil – April 8, TBA – features blessing of the new fire, renewal of baptismal vows, and receiving of new members into our faith community

The Thursday and Friday liturgies last no more than 75 minutes. The Easter Vigil is a bit more than two hours long. All are rich with symbols and rituals that appeal to all the senses and are an ideal way to grow in faith as we move from Lent to the Easter season. We hope you'll consider joining the community in celebrating these most sacred days of our faith. You'll find them unforgettable.

Cookie Drive for Homeless Shelter

The next date for the Cookie Collection for the Central Iowa Shelter are the weekends of April 8-9 and April 15-16. Please bring your fresh or store bought cookies to the cookie bin in the gathering space by those dates. St. Luke's Episcopal Church prepares the meal for the shelter and St. Kate's provides the dessert. Last month, the donated cookies were enjoyed by over 200 homeless men and women. Thank you for your generosity.

Spring Clothing Drive - April 30th

As you do your Spring house cleaning, please save those gently used clothes you do not need to bring to St. Kate's on April 29th and 30th for our Clothing Drive. Thank you.

Lenten Almsgiving Cross

Throughout Lent, you'll find a parish cross in the gathering space. It will contain tags that describe ways to help those in need in our community. Choose a tag that aligns with your interest in serving others in Jesus' name.

Bulletin announcements are due by noon of Wednesday each week.
Submit to: office@stcatherinedrake.org

Around the Diocese

Man-Up West, April 2023

Monsignor Frank Bognanno returns to Man-Up West on April 14. He will discuss his new book, "Three Minutes with God: Reflections to Inspire, Encourage, and Motivate." Monsignor will have copies of the book for sale at our event for \$20, cash or check. Profits from the book will go to the "Purify Project", which funds the development of clean water systems in African schools. Lunch Chick-fil-A /Program: High Noon, Friday, April 14th, St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church- 7075 Ashworth Rd, West Des Moines, IA 50266. Please register for this event at: www.iowacatholicradio.com.

Re-Thinking Poverty

The Center for Social Ministry invites you to participate in Re-Thinking Poverty, an experiential simulation that allows individuals to undertake living a month in poverty on Sunday, April 30 from 1:30-4 p.m. at Saint Timothy's Episcopal Church, 1020 24th Street, West Des Moines. Cost: \$10.

Participants assume the roles of individual members of different families facing poverty. Some are newly unemployed, some are elderly, some are recently deserted by the "breadwinner." The task of all the "families" is to provide shelter and the basic necessities of life during the course of four 15-minute weeks. The entire simulation takes about two hours and is divided into three segments: pre-simulation assessment and instructions, simulation, and post-simulation assessment and debriefing.

Palm Sunday Procession for Peace

The Procession and In-Person service this year is on April 2, 2023. Gather in the Parking lot at Union Park United Methodist Church, 2305 E. 12th St. at 2:30 p.m. Proceed to Community of Christ Church, 1645 Pennsylvania Ave at 3:00 p.m. Worship at Community of Christ Church, 1645 Pennsylvania Ave at 3:30 p.m. Live stream via zoom link <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86559124132?pwd=ajNjR2NOaUJ4RzlmZHZtV0pnRnZDUT09> Meeting ID: 86559124132 Passcode 50316.

Upon Further Review

From The Word Among Us

Jesus wept. (John 11:35)

Kara's close friend had just passed away from cancer, leaving behind a husband and four young children. So many people had prayed for her to be healed, but it didn't happen. Kara was baffled. How could a good and loving God allow this?

Kara searched the Scriptures for answers. Nothing satisfied her until she read these words in today's Gospel: "Jesus wept" (John 11:35). It didn't solve the mystery of why God allows suffering, but it did comfort her. She knew that the Lord was with her and with all the people who were grieving the death of this young woman. In fact, she sensed that he was weeping along with them.

Jesus' weeping at the tomb of Lazarus demonstrates how, as a human being, he experienced every emotion we experience, including grief. John writes that when Jesus arrived in Bethany and saw Lazarus' sister Mary weeping, he was "deeply troubled" (John 11:33). This shows us that Jesus understands exactly what we are going through when we lose a dear friend or loved one. Not only that, but he feels the pain and sorrow that we are feeling. That's why we can find so much solace in drawing near to him in those difficult times.

The reality of death was painful for Jesus even though he was planning to raise Lazarus. We might believe that a loved one is with God, and perhaps feel guilty about grieving because of the joy that they are now experiencing in heaven. But Jesus' example shows us that it's human to be sad, and that our faith isn't somehow deficient if we grieve. If you are experiencing grief, know that Jesus is with you in your sorrow, not as a dispassionate bystander, but as a fellow mourner. He understands your pain, and in your darkest hour, he is with you to comfort and console you.

"Jesus, thank you for never abandoning me, in good times and in bad."

Donations

Please assist St. Kate's by mailing a check to the office or giving online by clicking on the DONATE button on our website or by completing an ACH form for automatic withdrawals.

Thank you for your generosity.

Faith Formation

Encounter, our new intergenerational faith formation program, has been wildly popular with parishioners of all ages and stages of life. We invite you to share food, fellowship, and formation with the St. Kate's community during our final two sessions, when we will explore the following topics:

April 16 – Praying in the Easter Season

May 21 – St. Francis of Assisi & Franciscan spirituality



OUR MISSION

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