

Saints Peter and Paul Parish

Gilbert, Iowa

Pastor, Fr. Jon Seda, frjon@staparish.net, 292-1192
Associate Pastor, Fr. Jim Dubert, frjim@staparish.net, 337-1265
St. Thomas Aquinas, 2210 Lincoln Way, Ames, IA
Sunday Mass 8:30 am

Parish Council Chairperson: Donald Johnson
Telephone: 515-733-4464
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Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God January 1, 2012

Stewardship Reflection

The first reading today recalls God's special blessing upon the Israelites. The Lord has been gracious to us as well, pouring into our hearts that spirit which knows Him as Father and makes us His children. May we, like Mary, treasure these things in our hearts and live gratefully!

Your Prayers

Please keep **Nolan Jonas, Father Ev Hemann, Mark Jennings**, brother of Michele Mullen, **Bonita Schmitz**, mother of Joan Eslick, **Ledger Dalton**, grand-nephew of Deb Joel, **Fran East**, mother of Donna Weigel, and **Dean Furness**, son of Dennis and Karen Furness in your thoughts and prayers.



Faith Formation News

Jan 4th No class - Christmas Break
Jan 11th Classes resume (6:45 to 8:00 pm)
Jan 18th Class (6:45 to 8:00 pm)



Recycle Used Candles

Candle stubs and wax from unscented candles will be collected after Mass **TODAY!** This wax will be used to make new candles for the Mustard Seed Catholic Worker Farm. For more information, talk to Alice McGary (515) 460-1467.

Question of the week

Adults: I reflect on the God-Child, what does it say to me about the love of God for us all?

Children: I know that God loves everyone. Is there anything I can do to become more loving this new year?

A Preview of Next Week Sunday, January 8, 2012

Readings: Is 60:1-6/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12



Sacristan: Mike Phelan family
Greeter: Phelan family
Ushers: Gary Bailey, Roger Johnson
Reader: Erin Wilgenbusch
Acolytes: Thomas Wilgenbusch, Riley Wilgenbusch, Anne Wilgenbusch
Gift Bearer: Vicki Fritz family
Communion Ministers: Sue Baumhover, Phil Wirth, Roger Johnson

Free Throw Contest

The annual Saints Peter and Paul free throw contest will be held on **Sunday, January 8th**. The contest is open to any boys or girls ages 10-14. It will take place at 1:00 pm at the Story City Rec center. Registration will begin at 12:45 pm. Child must be accompanied by an adult along with proof of age as of January, 1, 2012. Tell your friends! Winners will advance to District competition.

Leap of Faith Rosary

The intention for the Leap of Faith Rosary program will be changing to "increase in respect for the sanctity of life from conception to natural death," starting in January. Feel free to add any other intentions to this that you wish. If you have any questions or would like to participate in our leap year of prayer, contact Gary Bailey at (515) 733-2043 or beetle1@iowatelecom.net.

Church Facilities

After **December 18th**, a new phone number to inquire about use of church facilities will be used. The new number is 515-231-6186. Contact with Cathy Strohbehn can also be made via email at cstrohbe@iastate.edu.

Food Pantry Update

The Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry in Story City at 510 Pennsylvania is open to any individuals needing help with putting food on their table. The only requirement is that clients must live in the Story City/Roland school district or in the Gilbert school district. When coming to the pantry, clients must bring proof of residence such as a utility bill. Those coming to the pantry will be able to fill out a grocery list of items they need, and then will be offered a voucher for fresh food and laundry detergent. They will be able to come to the pantry once a month on Saturday mornings between 10:00-noon. If you have questions, please call Tonya Meyer (515) 290-9051.

The Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry will reopen **Saturday, January 7th**, with our church distributing food. Thank you to the many volunteers who have signed up for this day! The next date that our church will distribute is **Saturday, March 17th**.

For those who would like to make a donation to the pantry, send to: Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry, P. O. Box 23, Story City, IA 50248. Thank you for your support!

Divorce Group to Discuss Anger

The separated/divorced support group of St. Thomas Aquinas will meet **Thursday, January 12th**, from 7:00-8:30 pm in the Lower Lounge of the church. Topic for discussion will be the chapter on anger from Healing the Wounds of Divorce by B.L. Shlemon. Before the meeting, the group will gather for dinner at 5:15 at Ge-Angelo's Italian Restaurant, 823 Wheeler St., in Ames. Men and women of all faiths are welcome. Free childcare is available with prior request. To RSVP for dinner or childcare by noon on **Wednesday, January 11th**, contact Cosette Bergman at (515) 298-1508 or cb6234@gmail.com

Retreat Opportunity

A New Year's resolution for your spiritual life in 2012; a Christian Experience Weekend (CEW). The CEW weekend is an adult renewal experience offering participants a better understanding of old and new aspects of their Christian faith. The 2012 weekends will be **January 27-29th** (Ankeny) and **March 2-4th** (Montour) for women and **February 17-19th** (Ankeny) and **February 24-26th** (Montour) for men. Brochures for both locations are available at <http://www.sthenrychurch.com/CEW.htm> and www.olih.org/cew.

Collection Envelopes

Collection envelopes are in the basement for 2012. Please let a parish council member if you need a box.

Archdiocese of Dubuque Book

The archdiocese of Dubuque has produced a full-color coffee table sized commemorative book featuring over 300 pages of the rich Catholic heritage of the Archdiocese of Dubuque on the occasion of the 175th anniversary of the archdiocese.

History pages and photos of all parishes and diocesan institutions are part of this lovely book. Along with the coffee table book there is a color illustrated book for children depicting the history of the archdiocese. A limited number of these are now available for purchase.

Sample copies will be in the St. Thomas Aquinas student lounge & library for you to view. You can purchase copies (\$35 & \$6) from the St. Thomas Aquinas parish office.

Adult Faith Formation

This past year, Pope Benedict has been encouraging Catholics worldwide to read, know, and pray the 150 psalms of the Old Testament. An eleven week bible study, "Psalms: The School of Prayer," will be offered at St. Thomas Aquinas parish on Wednesday evenings during the spring semester. It will begin with an introductory section on **Wednesday, January 11th**, from 7:15-8:30 pm in Bethany/Newman. Fr. Jim Dubert is the facilitator. To pre-register, contact frjim@staparish.net.

Show Your Appreciation!



To the Music Ministry... They put in extra time to practice and have great music for us on Sundays, Holy Days, Easter, and Christmas.

To your Faith Formation teacher... They have put in extra time and effort to teach our children of the parish our faith. They are to be commended; it takes special people to teach the faith!



If you are new to Saints Peter and Paul or would like to become more involved, please contact Michael Schnurr at 515-388-9009.