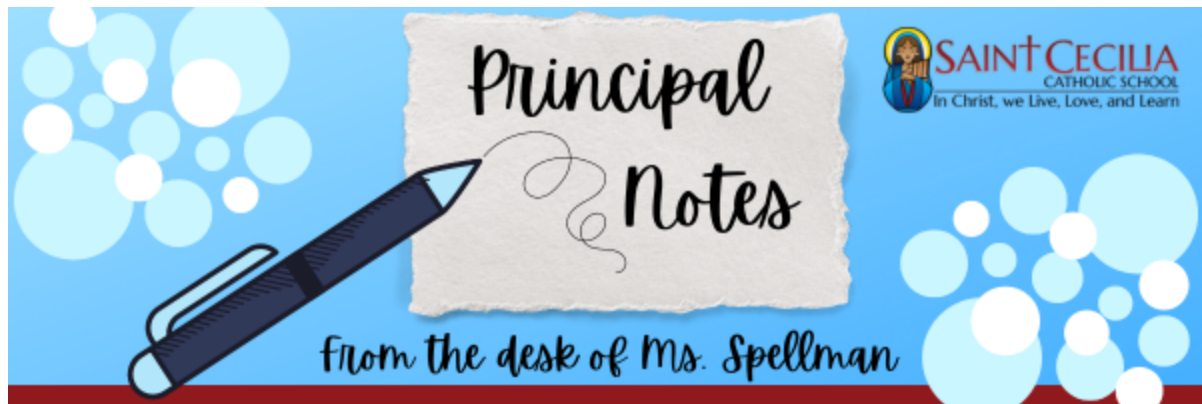




St. Cecilia School - Principal Notes - October 24, 2025

Student of the Month - October 30, 2025

Our next “Student(s) of the Month” is on Thursday October 30th. This will be announced after K-6 mass. All students will have the opportunity to earn this throughout the year. Something new we are adding in addition to being chosen based on exemplifying one of our pillars from St. Cecilia’s Strategic Planning “Profiles of a Graduate,” we are incorporating our behavior pillars and 7 habits we are working on. The “Profiles of a Graduate” pillar we have focused this month is “Persons of Faith.” Below you will see a description of the “Profiles of a Graduate” pillar. The habits we are focused on this month: “Puts First Things First,” “Seek First to Understand Then to Be Understood,” and “Sharpen the Saw.”

- Persons of Faith
 - Secure in God’s love and listens to the Holy Spirit guiding them
 - Love God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit
 - Respects Catholic teachings and Traditions
 - Confident in who God created them to be
 - Active Life of Prayer
 - Approach God and God’s creation with reverence
- Puts First Things First
 - Make time to achieve the most important goals.
- Seek First to Understand Then to be Understood
 - Listens, understands, and honors others’ perspectives, and expresses thoughts and feelings respectfully.
- Sharpen the Saw
 - Increases motivation, energy, and vitality by making time for renewal activities.

Christmas Concert - December 9, 2025

This year's Christmas concert will be Tuesday, December 9th at 6:30pm at the Ames City Auditorium. We will be running the evening slightly differently than in the past with preschool going first, followed by K-2, both bands and then 3-6. More information will be sent home late October/early November. Mark your calendars!

Fall 2025 Mileage Club

That's a wrap on Fall Mileage Club! We had amazing weather the last 4 weeks and the students and teachers did a great job earning toe tokens for their laps. A HUGE shoutout to all the volunteers who made this M/W/F program run smoothly. A special thank you to Allie Schlicher and Karen Butler for being the coordinators again this year and Jackie Campbell for providing the music! Mileage Club will return again in the spring for another 4 weeks. Here are some results from fall Mileage Club:

Laps: 7,982

Distance: 2,195 miles as a school was logged

Shout out to the 2nd graders for achieving the highest number of miles per student! Followed closely by the 1st graders.

Kindergarten - 15.7 miles per student

1st grade - 20.2 miles per student

2nd grade - 21.8 miles per student

3rd grade - 13 miles per student

4th grade - 12.3 miles per student

5th grade - 16.9 miles per student

6th grade - 13.4 miles per student



Mass Reception for 5th/6th Grade - November 6, 2025

The 5th/6th grade students and their families are invited to come to an FSA sponsored family reception after mass on Thursday, November 6th. Mass will start at 9am and the reception will follow around 9:45 in the Social Hall. The 5th/6th grade students will attend the reception for

about 15 or 20 minutes. This is a time for the students and their families to be able to socialize, meet other families and gain a sense of community within their grade. Food and refreshments will be provided by the kindergarten class parents who are hosting. The Social Hall is reserved until 11am on Thursday for the parents to use this time to chat and meet new friends!

Kindergarten parents, please use this link below to sign up for your volunteer hosting duties!

Thank you!

[Mass Reception Sign Up Genius](#)

Operation Christmas Child

The giving season is quickly approaching and FSA needs your help to spread joy to less fortunate kids around the world. Operation Christmas Child is an organization that gathers donations of personal care items, school supplies and small toys to be placed in shoeboxes and delivered to children in third world countries for Christmas. Items need to be dropped off at the school by Friday, November 7th to allow us time to pack up and take the shoeboxes to the drop off location to be shipped. Thank you for your generosity this holiday season!

[Operation Christmas Child Sign Up Genius](#)

FSA School Directory

Each year FSA provides school families with a school directory. This is a great way to connect with other families at school. It is being sent home today in your youngest student's Friday folder. A very special thank you to Emily Poss and Sara Bergman for all of the work they did to get the school directory printed. Also, thank you to the sponsors for your support. Please take a look at the back pages of the directory and support our sponsors whenever possible. They are school families in our community!



Dine & Donate - October 28, 2025

This Month's Dine + Donate: The Feast of Sts. Simon and Jude at APPLEBEE'S! Join us for this month's Family School Association fundraiser at Applebee's in Ames, all day on Tuesday, October 28. 15% of your purchase will benefit our Catholic school students and staff.

Sts. Simon and Jude were Apostles and appear in the Gospels. St. Simon was one of the 12 with Jesus throughout his ministry and in the upper room at Pentecost! St. Jude Thaddeus was also an apostle and cousin of Jesus. The statue in our Narthex with the red votive candles is San Judas Tadeo, the "patron saint of lost causes." His writings encourage us to persevere, even in the most desperate circumstances. Sts. Simon and Jude share a feast day because they were both martyred in Persia before their relics were buried in St. Peter's in Rome. Sts. Simon and Jude, pray for us!



Living Saints Exhibit - November 2, 2025

Our first faith formation event is coming up and is planned as a completely voluntary Living Saints Exhibit on November 2nd during the St. Cecilia's 8:30 and 10:30 masses where children involved will be released after communion to dress and be stationed either around the narthex or in the north Social Hall depending on space availability. We would like to extend an invitation to school families to participate. Because it is an exhibit, each child will hold a card with a title of the saint they are portraying, dates of birth and death and what they are the patron of. If your child also has any ability to interact with the "museum patrons" and tell about their life as a saint, even better.

An example of one of the exhibit cards could be:

Saint Lawrence
Deacon and Martyr

12/31/225 - 8/10/258

Patron of Cooks, Barbecuers, and Comedians

Ken Hiveley, Coordinator of Elementary Faith Formation, has cardstock and can print this out for you if you let him know the information. He has also created a Sign Up Genius for making signup easier too: [Living Saints Signup](#)

The following resources can be used for research:

<https://www.catholic.org/saints/>
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Catholic_saints
<https://www.teachingcatholickids.com/?s=saints>

Some additional information that COULD BE PRESENTED could entail:

- Canonization Date

- Feast day
- Known for
- Virtues & Character Traits
- Where they were from
- 5 interesting facts

Please reach out to Ken Hiveley at khiveley@stceciliaparish.org if you have any questions or concerns. Thank you in advance to all participants who choose to take part in our Living Saints Museum!

Chili Cook Off - November 15, 2025

The Parish Life Committee is sponsoring a chili cook off/supper on Saturday, November 15th. The event will be held in the south social hall from 6:00-8:00 PM and is \$5.00 per person. If you would like to be a chef in the 4th Annual Chili Cook Off or have questions, contact Angie Pohlen at alpohlen@hotmail.com or 515-520-9185.



October 30: All School Mass 9:00-10:00 am
November 3: No School (Professional Development)
November 4: Catholic School Board Meeting 7:00 pm
November 6: All School Mass 9:00-10:00 am followed by 5th/6th Reception
November 7: Scrip Spirit Day
November 11: FSA Meeting 6:30 pm
November 13: All School Mass 9:00-10:00 am
November 14: No School (Conference Prep Day)
November 18: Parent/Teacher Conferences 3:30-7:30 pm
November 19: Parent/Teacher Conferences 3:30-5:00 pm
November 20: All School Mass 9:00-10:00 am; Parent/Teacher Conferences 3:30-6:00 pm
November 21: Mission Spirit Day
November 25: Early Dismissal 1:30 pm

November 26-28: No School

December 1: School Resumes