

ST. THERESA CATHOLIC

FAITH • SERVICE • COMMUNITY • EDUCATION

1230 Merle Hay Rd., Des Moines, IA 50311

515-279-4654

August 28 & 29, 2021



22nd Sunday IN ORDINARY TIME

“Nothing that enters one from outside can defile that person; but the things that come out from within are what defile.” - Mk 7:15

PARISH STAFF

Pastor

Fr. Raphael Assamah.....279-4654 x301
Rectory.....279-4654 x501
Email.....rassamah@stsdsm.com

Weekend Assistant

Rev. Robert Chamberlain
Email.....bobbikecham@gmail.com

Pastoral Associate

Deacon David Schmidt..279-4654 x308
Email.....dschmidt@stsdsm.com

Deacons

Deacon Michael Huntsman...537-5382
michael.huntsman@hotmail.com
Deacon Rick Condon.....314-0108
rnjcondon@yahoo.com

Parish Manager

Mike Smith.....279-4654 x303
Email.....michaelsmith@stsdsm.com

Coordinator of Pre-K-5th Faith Formation

Jane Ann Becicka.....279-4654 x304
Email.....jbecicka@stsdsm.com

Director of Youth Ministry

Megs Howes.....279-4654 x306
Email.....mhowes@stsdsm.com

RCIA Director, Adult Faith Formation

Barb Woods.....515-210-6649
Email.....bwoods@stsdsm.com

Parish Accountant

John McMichael.....279-4654 x305
Email.....jmcmmichael@stsdsm.com

Communication Coordinator

Emily Melcher
Email.....emelcher1@stsdsm.com

St. Theresa School.....515-277-0178

Fax.....515-255-2415

Principal, Ellen Stemler....277-0178 x207

Email.....estemler@stsdsm.com

St. Theresa Child Care....277-3788 x401

Director, Maria Calhoun
Email.....mcalhoun@stsdsm.com

Office Hours: 9:00am - 3:30pm (M-F)

Parish Secretary

Sue Fitzpatrick.....279-4654 x300
Email.....sfitzpatrick@stsdsm.com

Food Pantry

Anita Holub.....515-216-0908
Food Pantry Hours - M - W - 10am-1:45pm

STEWARDSHIP GIFTS PRAY FAST GIVE

Week Ending August 22
\$ 7,704.00

Weekly August Budget
\$ 16,740.99

Difference
\$ (\$9,036.99)

YTD Cumulative Difference
\$ (\$6,856.66)

Weekly Contributors
104

Building Fund - \$10.00

First Fruits - \$50.00

CISS Meals - \$105.00

Church in Africa - \$25.00

Food Pantry - \$335.00

PARISH COMMITTEES

Finance Council

Judy Kendzora.....515-276-4139
Email.....tkendzora@mchsi.com

School Board

Laura Sarcone
Email.....laurasarcone@gmail.com

Peace & Justice

Kathy O'Neill.....515-865-1590
Email.....don.kathy.oneill@gmail.com

St. Vincent de Paul

Barb Chicoine.....515-979-5172
Email.....barbchicoine@msn.com

Pro-Life

Rachel Egan.....515-822-4884

St. Theresa K of C Grand Knight

Aaron Friess.....620-755-1291
Email.....aaronkfriess@gmail.com

St. Theresa Altar & Rosary (STARS)

Alisha Friess.....785-408-9452
Email.....stars@stsdsm.com

TOGO Committee

Kay Boisen.....515-720-0923
Susan Malloy515-321-5826

Baptism

Baptisms are scheduled for parishioners after the pre-baptism requirements are fulfilled. Baptism classes are held every other month. Call the church office to register.

Marriage

Please call the church office at least nine months prior to the desired wedding date.

WEEKEND MASS TIMES & RECONCILIATION

Reconciliation - Saturdays from 8:30am to 9:30am, by appointment or after any Mass

Saturday Mass - 4:30pm

Sunday Mass - 8:30am, 10:30am, 4:30pm

BULLETIN ARTICLES

Bulletin submissions should be sent to the parish office by Friday, the week before you want it in the bulletin. You will need to write your own copy. If you have any questions, please call Sue Fitzpatrick at 515-279-4654 x300. Please send submissions to stsmmedia@stsdsm.com.



Bulletins



A MESSAGE FROM FR. RAPHAEL



Reflection for the Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Theme: Re- examining our Practice of Christianity

Dear People of God,

Summer is gradually cruising to an end. Let us enjoy it before the fall throws into our eyes, beauty with allergies, colorful trees with foliage to clear. With school being in session, many of you will have a double schedule to suit your kids/grandkids. The challenge of balancing your time and work with family will be put to test.

Our liturgy for today challenges us to formulate a plan of concrete action. The serious acceptance of duty means a commitment to timetables. Only real service, not mere lip service, will be sufficient in living out the words of Jesus.

There is a story of Mullah Nasruddin who found a diamond ring by the roadside, but, according to the Law, finders became keepers only if they first announced their find in the center of the marketplace on three separate occasions. Now, Nasruddin was too religious-minded to disregard the Law and too greedy to run the risk of parting with the diamond ring. So, on three consecutive nights when he was sure that nobody was awake, he went to the center of the market and announced about the diamond ring in a soft voice: "Look! I found a diamond ring on the road. Anyone who is the owner should contact me at once."

No one noticed Mullah's mumbling, except one man who happened to be standing at his window on the third night. He rushed to Mullah and asked him what he was doing on that part of the night mumbling something in the market. Mullah replied, "I am no way obliged to tell you. But this much I shall say: Being a religious man, I went out there at night to pronounce certain words in fulfillment of the Law." After saying that, he put the diamond ring in his pocket and moved away from the market.

Friends, Laws, rituals, regulations, and ceremonies are often good. But they are not absolutes. They are a means to an end. They could be dispensed with if they do not serve the purpose for which they were designed. This is precisely what Jesus accused the Pharisees.

In the gospel passage, Jesus abolishes the practice of ritual purity and the distinction between clean and unclean foods. Jesus rejects the Pharisees' and the scribes' notion of sin. For Jesus, sin is the human spirit gone wrong, not a failure to distinguish between types of food. Jesus' attitude toward sin is consistent with his views regarding the sabbath. The institution is for the people, not the other way around (Mark 2:27). The letter of the law without compassion is dehumanizing.

The Challenge

There are people who consider themselves good Christians because they practice certain rites and repeat certain devotions. Do these exterior shows of religiosity determine who is a disciple of Christ? Today's readings put us on our guard against the danger of placing on the same level the commandment of God and the traditions of people. *Only real service, not mere lip service, will be sufficient in living out the words of Jesus.*

GOD IS GOOD SLOGAN

GOD IS GOOD – ALL THE TIME

ALL THE TIME – GOD IS GOOD

AND THAT IS HIS NATURE

FR. KEN GROSS & FR. LARRY HOFFMANN ANNIVERSARY MASSES

Fr. Ken Gross will celebrate 4:30pm Mass on Saturday, September 4, 2021, for the 50th anniversary of his ordination and Fr. Larry Hoffmann will celebrate the 8:30am Mass on Sunday, September 12, 2021, for his 50th anniversary..



CATHOLIC SCHOOL



We are off to a fantastic start of this new school year! It was an absolute joy to welcome our K-8th grade children on Monday, August 23. Our PreK children will join us on September 1.

Due to COVID we still have many protocols in place to keep our children and staff safe. Parents make the decision if their children wear masks or not. We have our handwashing and cleaning protocols in force. Each classroom has a sanitizing station. Our drinking fountains are fill stations only and each student has their own water bottle. Students are still separated at lunch but we are not using the desk or table dividers this year. For at least the first month of school we are not allowing visitors in the building and we will not be taking field trips. Our children on the bus are mandated by Federal law to wear masks. We are paying close attention to all of the information shared by the CDC, the Iowa Department of Public Health and Polk County Health Department. We continue to be flexible and patient with each other.

PTC will nominate and vote on officers for the 2021-2022 school year on Thursday, September 2, from 6-7pm in the East Meeting Room. All parents are invited and most welcome!

With prayers,

Saint Theresa Catholic is hiring part time employees for immediate opening in the kitchen. If you would be interested in working during the school year 2021-2022 please contact Kenneth Seymour. kseymour@stsdsm.com or 515-277-0178 ext 8100. Hours will vary, main hours 9-1 but may change and must be flexible. Main duties are food prep, serving food and cleaning.

Invitation to Personal Prayer: Conversation for the Spiritual Life, an Online Course

Deepen your prayer life with some of the great tools of St. Ignatius. Learn basic building blocks of praying with Scripture and put them into practice. Groups meet online for 90 minutes (maximum) each week for 9 weeks and participants commit to at least 15 minutes of daily prayer. Groups are limited in size and led by trained facilitators.

All are invited. **Pre-registration is required.** The fee is \$40 (plus shipping if required), materials included. Groups will begin the week of September 19th. Register as soon as possible to avoid delays in receiving materials. Registration deadline is Friday, 9/3/21

To select your group and register, go <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CG3N7T9>

Questions or more information:



Not registered yet? We need YOU to make our Faith Formation Year Complete! Just follow the steps>>>>>

- Step 1. Go to www.sainttheresaiowa.org
- Step 2. Select the **Faith Formation** tab at the top of the page
- Step 3. Select **Elementary Formation** (k-5th) or **Youth Ministry** (6th-12th)
- Step 4. Scroll down to select **2021-2022 Faith Formation Registration Form**
- Step 5. Complete the online form. If a question doesn't apply to your family, just put N/A and continue.
- Step 6. See you on September 8th for our first class!



YOUTH MINISTRY



MS/HS Faith Formation Training/Planning Session

Date: Wednesday, September 8, 6pm-8:00pm

Location: East Meeting Room

Join us for a night of training and reflection as we prepare for the upcoming faith formation year. This is intended for adults and high school students who will be helping with Edge, Life Teen & Confirmation, including small group leaders. There will be a meal, snacks and beverages provided. Contact Megs with any questions or concerns.

Parish Faith Formation Registration for 2021-22 School Year

It's time to register for faith formation session for PK-12th grade for the upcoming school year. If you have any questions regarding Sunday School, Wednesday Faith (K-5th) , please contact Jane Ann Becicka at jbeckica@stsdsm.com. If you have any question regarding Edge (6 -8th), Life Teen (9-12th) and Confirmation Prep (9th and older), please contact Megs Howes at mhowes@stsdsm.com . Please see the link on the Home Page of the Website to register.

Volunteers Needed!! St. Theresa Homeless Meal Intake and Transport

Our parish continues to use donated funds along with monthly meal providers to serve 175 people at Central Iowa Shelter and Services. We coordinate with HyVee, who provides entrée and dessert with donated funds. *Two volunteers are needed on the 8th of the month from 4:00 pm to 5:30 pm for intake at the parish kitchen.* Meal providers drop off sides at the church car port entrance. Then intake workers use carts to transport the sides to the kitchen to store until transport arrives at 5:15 pm. Intake and transport volunteers load up vehicles to deliver to the shelter by 5:45 pm.

Two volunteers arrive at the parish kitchen by 5:15 to transport food/supplies to CISS shelter. Shelter staff provides assistance to carry food into the shelter with St. Theresa transport volunteers.

If you can spare the time to help out with *intake or transport on a rotating basis* with other parishioners, please call or text Celeste Egger at 480-8358 or email celeste.egger@gmail.com. For over 25 years, a dedicated core group of St. Theresa volunteers this monthly ministry to feed the homeless in our city. Please consider joining our team.

STARS "FAIR WEATHER" ROSARY

All STARS members are invited to say the Rosary on alternate Thursday evenings* at 7pm in the west end of the main parking lot (by 60th Street). Bring a lawn chair. In case of bad weather, it will be cancelled – hence the "fair weather" name! To get notices about the Fair Weather Rosary, email your request to STARS@stsdsm.com, include Fair Weather Rosary in the subject line and put your name and email address in the body of the message. The Rosary is led by the Prayer and Faith Enhancement Committee and takes about 20 minutes. New to the Rosary? This is a great place to learn it – we even have extra rosary beads for you. Contact Rita Green for more information 515.279.9122.

*Those Thursdays are September 2, 16, and 30.

Young Adult Retreat

Come away for a weekend of prayer and relaxation with other young adults from around the Diocese, September 17 - 19. Perpetual Adoration of our Lord, a series of talks guiding your prayer for the weekend, small groups with your peers, opportunities for recreation such as canoeing, high ropes, volleyball, and more! Register today at www.dmdiocese.org/YAretreat. For questions or to request financial assistance, email Justin White at jwhite@dmdiocese.org



An Invitation to Join St. Theresa's Grief Support Group forming this Fall

Are you or someone you know experiencing the emptiness and sadness from the loss of a loved one? Please consider joining our support group starting this Fall. We will be using the Seasons of Hope series as a guide to assist us in providing empathy and support for each other. There will be six weekly Seasons of Hope sessions scheduled. If interested, please contact Deacon David, 279-4654, ext 308 for more details.

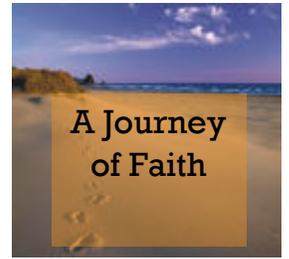


ADULT FAITH FORMATION



Welcome to RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)

RCIA is a process, rooted in Church history designed to form people in the Catholic faith and prepare adults to receive the sacraments of the Church. Becoming Catholic involves entering into relationship with Jesus Christ and His community of God's people. Hopefully, you will enjoy a deeper relationship with God as you become acquainted with members of St. Theresa Parish. Your RCIA journey will be a unique time for you. At the same time, members of the parish are praying for you, attending sessions with you, and sharing their own life stories as followers of Christ in His Church.



Perhaps you should extend an invitation to someone you know who might want to join the faith!

If you just want to know more about the process, please contact Barb Woods at 515-210-6649 or bwoods@stsdsm.com. No decisions have to be made right away. You might want to just come and see what it's all about!

graphics. The second newsletter deadline is November 11. People want to know what you are doing.

Adult Faith Formation

Study groups will be starting back up on September 13-14. The group times are Monday 9:30 – 11:30 am as well as 6:30 – 8:30 pm and Tuesday evening from 6:30 – 8:30 pm in the East Meeting Room. Our topic will be Church History. If there is a big enough group interested, we could set up Zoom on Tuesday morning.

On Monday evening, starting September 20, we will also have a session in the West Meeting Room from 6:30 – 8:30 using *The Search*. *The Search* is an innovative video series that tackles the key questions of every human heart. In seven beautifully filmed episodes, Chris Stefanick and experts from multiple fields examine our place in the larger story of existence.

Please let Barb (515-210-6649) know if you will be attending any of these sessions.

Don't forget the Lunch and Learn!

Lunch and Learn is the first Thursday of every month beginning at 10am. We usually have a guest speaker followed by a potluck lunch. On September 2, we will talk about the history of St. Theresa Church. If you have been around the parish for some time, come and help put names on the unknown. Do you have some memories up your sleeves? Come and share! Oh, and don't forget to bring a friend and a potluck dish. RSVP to Barb (515-210-6649)

PRO-LIFE HOLY HOUR

Please join fellow St. Theresa parishioners for a holy hour on Tuesday, August 31st, from 7:00-8:00 pm to pray especially for pro-life intentions! Come and visit Jesus and pray for vulnerable pregnant women and their unborn babies and the vulnerable sick and elderly. All ages are welcome! There will be snacks available afterward.

August 29 - Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time:

The gospel today hits home closer than we may think. What traditions do we blindly cling to? Perhaps it is enough for us just to go to Mass on Sunday? Do we keep the letter of the law and miss entirely the spirit of the law. Interior righteousness means a heart turned to God. Purity of heart is expressed in righteous living: self - giving for the sake of others. As you give your gift to the poor through the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, in your heart you also will find the good news of God's love.



SPIRITUAL ADOPTION PROGRAM



St. Theresa's pro-life team would like to invite you to participate in a special Spiritual Adoption program. Join us in "spiritually adopting" a child who is newly conceived this month. Not all newly conceived babies are allowed to be born. In fact, more than 3000 babies lose their lives to abortion each day in America. These babies at risk for abortion are the ones we are asking you to "adopt."

As you spiritually adopt a child, we suggest that you name the baby for whom you are praying, thereby acknowledging the baby's humanity. Pray for your spiritually adopted baby until birth, and watch the bulletin for updates on your baby's development!

Mass Intentions



Monday, 6:30 am	August 30 Communion Service
Tuesday, 6:30 am	August 31 † Karen (Last Name is Unknown)
Wednesday, 6:30 am	September 1 † Ryan Gray
Thursday, 6:30 am	September 2 † Tong & Hoa Nguyen
Friday, 6:30 am 8:35 am	September 3 † Pat & Harold Teater † Students of St. Theresa Parish
Saturday 4:30 pm 4:30 pm	September 4 † Marian Henneberry - Living † Pat & Harold Teater
Sunday, 8:30 am 8:30 am 10:30 am 10:30 am 4:30 pm	September 5 † John & Marilyn Caffrey † Deceased Members of the Loch & Wright Families † Dr. James Lavia † Mark Hesselmann † People of the Parish

St. Joseph, Protector of Homes

St. Joseph, protect our home. Pour forth from heaven blessings on our family. Remain in our midst. Help us to live in love and harmony, in peace and joy. May the wholesome fear of God strengthen us that virtue may adorn what we do and our way may lead to heaven.

To you this day I give the key to our dwelling place. Lock out all things that could do us harm. Lock my home and my loved ones with me in the hearts of Jesus and Mary. This I beg of you, that our days may be like your days in the holy home at Nazareth. Amen.



Readings for the week of August 29, 2021

Sunday:	Dt 4:1-2, 6-8/Ps 15:2-3, 3-4, 4-5 [1a]/ Jas 1:17-18, 21b-22, 27/Mk 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23
Monday:	1 Thes 4:13-18/Ps 96:1 and 3, 4-5, 11-12, 13 [13b]/Lk 4:16-30
Tuesday:	1 Thes 5:1-6, 9-11/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14 [13]/Lk 4:31-37
Wednesday:	Col 1:1-8/Ps 52:10, 11 [10]/Lk 4:38-44
Thursday:	Col 1:9-14/Ps 98:2-3ab, 3cd-4, 5-6 [2]/ Lk 5:1-11
Friday:	Col 1:15-20/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5 [2b]/ Lk 5:33-39
Saturday:	Col 1:21-23/Ps 54:3-4, 6 and 8 [6]/Lk 6:1-5
Next Sunday:	Is 35:4-7a/Ps 146:7, 8-9, 9-10 [1b]/ Jas 2:1-5/Mk 7:31-37

ANNUAL DIOCESAN APPEAL

GOAL	\$124,979.00
GIFTS/PLEDGES	\$1230,870.00
REMAINING ON GOAL	\$+5,891.00
PERCENTAGE OF GOAL MET	104.7%
NO. OF GIFTS/PLEDGES	302
AVERAGE GIFT	\$433.34



515-222-2300 | Member FDIC
westbankstrong.com

Des Moines' only Catholic-owned and operated funeral home.



CALDWELL PARRISH

8201 Hickman • 515-276-0551
www.CaldwellParrish.com



Matt Kneif, AAMS®, CFP®
Financial Advisor

1100 73rd Street
Windsor Heights, IA 50324
515-279-2219

Looking for rising income strategies in retirement? Let's talk!

Member SPIC

Edward Jones
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING



Look no further for the quality eye care you deserve.

Dr. Barbara A. Scheetz Ph: 515-440-4610
Dr. Greg D. Harper 5970 Ashworth Rd
Doctors of Optometry West Des Moines, IA

MEMBER *Windsor* SOURCE NETWORK



6842 University Ave. Windsor Heights 274-3011

LOUIE'S FLOOR COVERING
Low Prices on Name Brands
243-8608
2709 Ingersoll Ave. Des Moines



McCartan Insurance Group



Jim Talley, CFP®, AAMS®
Financial Advisor, Parishioner
2703 Beaver Ave., Des Moines, IA
Phone: 515-279-4179
Providing Personalized Financial Solutions

Edward Jones
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING



William T. Grask, D.D.S.
Mercy West Dental Clinic
1601 NW 114th St., #351, Clive
(515) 221-0381

MICHAEL J. VERSACKAS, MD
Associated Ophthalmologists, PC
Dr. Ejaz Husain, M.D.
Dr. Naveen Husain, M.D.
Dr. Chris Miller, O.D.
1212 Pleasant St., Suite 202 • Des Moines, IA 50309
(515) 244-3937 (EYES) www.dmeyemd.com

Joel McCartan
West Des Moines, IA
515-633-2273
joel@mccartaninsurance.com
Diocesan Parishioner & Brother Knight
Auto | Home | Life | Business

SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS!



Iles Funeral Homes
Celebrate Life the Way You Live It
IlesCares.com

John Wild

ADT-Monitored Home Security

Get 24-Hour Protection From a Name You Can Trust

- Burglary
- Fire Safety
- Flood Detection
- Carbon Monoxide



SafeStreets

1-855-225-4251



PROTECTING SENIORS NATIONWIDE MEDICAL ALERT SYSTEM

\$29.95/MO

BILLED QUARTERLY

CALL NOW! 1.877.801.7772

WWW.24-7MEDALARM.COM



WE'RE HIRING

AD SALES EXECUTIVES

BE YOURSELF. BRING YOUR PASSION. WORK WITH PURPOSE.

- Paid Training
- Some Travel
- Work-Life Balance
- Full-Time with Benefits
- Serve Your Community

Contact us at careers@4lpi.com
www.4lpi.com/careers



MERCYONE

We are proud to be central Iowa's Catholic health care provider.
Find a physician or clinic near you at mercyone.org/desmoines

Alphabet Academy

Montessori Inspired Childcare and Preschool

515.223.1387

6355 Beechtree Drive West Des Moines

Transportation provided to STCS

Berry & Angela Thraikill Parishioners

AlphabetAcademyWDM.com

AVAILABLE FOR A LIMITED TIME!
ADVERTISE HERE NOW!

Contact **Rob Witte** to place an ad today!
rwitte@4LPi.com or
(800) 950-9952 x2501

255-0022



MICHAEL P. HOLZWORTH
Attorney At Law
General Practice
5835 Grand
274-0279

i-wire electric

I wire, so you don't have to.

(515) 229-5981

TOM YOUNGWIRTH, OWNER, PARISHIONER

We've Missed You!
Welcome Back to Mass



Stay connected to our faith community no matter where you are by signing up to get our bulletin delivered straight to your email!

www.ParishesOnline.com

ST THERESA OF THE CHILD JESUS foundation

Give the Gift that will Last Forever

Have you considered a charitable gift or future bequest to St. Theresa Foundation? Your donations help build the Foundation's permanent endowment fund, which will provide perpetual financial support to St. Theresa Parish.

FOR MORE DETAILS CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE • 515-279-4654

O'Donnell ACE Hardware

277-0062 255-2240
4808 University 5715 Hickman Rd.
279-4245 • 2727 Beaver Ave.



For ad info. call 1-800-950-9952 • www.4lpi.com

St. Theresa, Des Moines, IA

A 4C 02-0264