



ST. THERESA CATHOLIC

FAITH • SERVICE • COMMUNITY • EDUCATION

1230 Merle Hay Rd., Des Moines, IA 50311

515-279-4654

September 4 & 5, 2021



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
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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
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Coordinator of Pre-K-5th Faith Formation

Jane Ann Becicka.....279-4654 x304
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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.....jmcmichael@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
\$ 15,874.90

Weekly August Budget
\$ 16,740.99

Difference
\$ (\$866.09)

YTD Cumulative Difference
\$ (\$7,722.75)

Weekly Contributors
151

Building Fund - \$4,010.00
First Fruits - \$225.00
CISS Meals - \$140.00
Church in Africa - \$342.00
Food Pantry - \$103.00
Office Food Pantry - \$150.00

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
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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 Malloy.....515-321-5826

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-third Sunday in Ordinary Time Theme: Seeing God in People

Dear People of God,

There is this idiomatic expression that "Curiosity killed the cat." My curiosity to the farmers market in downtown Des Moines last week did not kill me. This is because I was sandwiched between Rick and Mary McConville with their grandson as my bodyguard. As the name implies "Farmers Market", I thought I would only see farmers with their produce. However, there was soul-searching music and an evangelist preaching. I felt the presence of God in people's situation. Our liturgy for today calls us to see God in everyone's predicaments.

Hope is not lost

The prophet Isaiah articulates hope and intervention to the discouraged and confused. The author uses Exodus imagery: God's people will go home, and they will experience the miracles of the desert. God singles out four groups -- ***the blind, the deaf, the lame, and the dumb***. These are people that God brought hope into their lives.

All are equal before God

St. James replies to this question in a very provocative way: "Now suppose a man comes into your synagogue well dressed, with gold rings on ...and at the same time a poor man comes in, in shabby clothes" (vv. 1-4). The Christian community that discriminates is committing a very serious mistake because it was constituted as a sign of hope for the poor. "It was those who were poor according to the world that God chose to be rich in faith and to be the heirs to the kingdom" (v.5)

The poor in the Bible are just those who have no money but also all those who get little in life: the sick, those who cannot get a proper education, those everybody shuns because they are rude. All these people that we shy away from must have a privileged place within a Christian community and enjoy even more attention than others. The disciples of Christ are called to show that the norms they use to judge people are completely the opposite of those applied by the world. The discrimination mentioned by James must certainly not be allowed to take place within churches.

The concrete sign of friendship and equality that we show during our sacred gatherings as we listen to the word of God and share the Eucharist becomes difficult to practice during everyday life. There is a compelling force in us that leads us to make distinctions and to show preference for this or that.

Should we then say that we are all hypocrites? **No!** We are just weak and sinners. Our assemblies on the day of the Lord do not celebrate what we are already but what we are called to become; they remind us of how the new world we are trying to build should be: a world where all men and women are truly brothers and sisters with equal rights and dignity. As we step out this week, let us remove all the things that blind us to discriminate and rather promote *love, equality, and justice for all*. Shalom!

GOD IS GOOD SLOGAN

GOD IS GOOD – ALL THE TIME

ALL THE TIME – GOD IS GOOD

AND THAT IS HIS NATURE

ANNOUNCEMENT - NEW DIRECTOR OF MAINTENANCE

We are pleased to announce that the Parish has added a new member to its management team. Danijel Lastro will be joining St. Theresa on 1 September as the new Director of Maintenance. He comes with a great background in maintenance and repair, a strong desire to be a part of the St. Theresa family, and an abundance of enthusiasm for the job. If you see him around please welcome him to St. Theresa.



CATHOLIC SCHOOL



We are off to a fantastic start! Fr. Raphael blessed the students, their backpacks and the teachers at our first all-school Mass on Friday, August 27. We are truly blessed!

Thank you for the prayers for all of us and the success of the school year!

There is no school on Monday, September 6, as we celebrate Labor Day.

Do you love kids? Have we got some jobs for you! We are in need of kitchen staff member from 9-1 each school day. For more information please contact Kenneth Seymour at kseymour@stsdsm.com or call 277-0178 ext. 100.

We also have an opening for a lunchroom supervisor. In this position you are blessed to work with all of our children as they eat lunch. The position is responsible for helping students, maintaining a safe and caring environment and dismissing them for recess.

We also have a part-time math interventionist position available from 10-2 Monday through Friday. Additionally, there are three aide positions available for 3 hours per day five days per week. These four positions are funded through EANS Funding and you would be an employee of FACTS. If you are interested or would like more information please contact Ellen Stemler at estemler@stsdsm.com or 277-0178 ext. 207.

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:

Mary at 515.371.0001 (call or text)



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

Step 1. Go to www.sainttheresaiaowa.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!



September 5 - Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time:

In today's Gospel we hear how Jesus "makes the deaf hear and the mute speak!" In living the gospel, we must open our ears to hear and recognize all the everyday opportunities for making God's presence known, especially to those who are poor and suffering. On September 9, the Church also celebrates the feast of Blessed Frederic Ozanam, the founder of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul. Frederic heard the call of Jesus to love and serve those who are suffering.

Is there a family you know who needs assistance?

Please call the Society of St. Vincent de Paul so that together we can "make God's presence known" to those who are suffering and poor? 515-979-5172



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.

Edge and Life Teen Starts September 15!

Edge is for grades 6-8 and meets for 6:30 pm-7:30pm and Life Teen is for grades 9-12 and meets from 6:00pm -8:00pm. Check out the Youth Ministry website for more Information.

THE THIRD OPTION

We make marriage VOWS, not promises or wishes.....

A free marriage enrichment program is for all couples whether they are facing obstacles in their marriage or just trying to make a good thing better! The Third Option will meet **every 2nd and 4th Monday "IN PERSON"** at All Saints Catholic Church on 650 NE 52nd Ave. in Des Moines, 50313. The workshop is held from 7-9 p.m. **A new session begins September 13th**; however, participants are welcome to join anytime. If you have questions, or would like to register contact Adam Storey at astorey@dmdiocese.org or 515-237-5056. You can also contact Barb Berenguel at barbberenguel@yahoo.com or 515-229-0535.

SPECIAL COLLECTION FOR SEMINARIANS

The diocesan-wide Special Collection for Seminarians will be conducted next weekend, September 11th and 12th. This year we recognize that our Priests are called by God to be Men of Communion. As men of communion, Christ is the sustaining force for these men along with the people to whom they minister. Registered households will be receiving a brochure and return envelope in the mail from Bishop Joensen. Gifts to this collection are used to cover tuition, room and board, and provide a small monthly stipend for pre-theologians and theologians. This year, more than \$200,000 is needed to enable the academic formation of our fifteen seminarians. Heartfelt thanks for your prayers and charitable donation to support the seminarians.

PARISH UPDATE - REPAIR & MAINTENANCE PROJECTS

As a parish community St. Theresa is called upon to be a good steward of the resources given to it by its parishioners, and to ensure that they are managed appropriately in order to support and serve the parish mission. As such it is good to provide you with a periodic update on what we are doing – such as repair projects (using building fund and designated donations). This past year the parish has used building funds to repair brick work at the school and steel lintels and brick work in the Parish Office building. In addition the Parish has replaced three windows in the Church in the upstairs hallway (west end), library and the utility room. In addition funds, supplemented by hundreds of volunteer hours, were used to do additional work on the grounds and offices within the rectory. Projects being worked include the replacement of the HVAC in the school, replacement of windows/modernization of the Parish Office complex, and the purchase and installation of a quality camera system in the Church to support Mass attendance by our homebound and nursing home parishioners. If you have any questions please feel free to contact Mike Smith, Parish Manager.

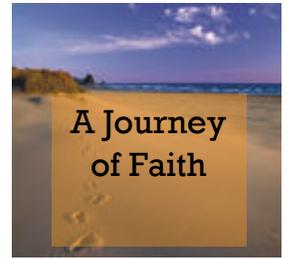


ADULT FAITH FORMATION



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.

Man-Up West, September 2021:

Meet some of our newly Ordained Priests

Friday, Sept. 10th at Noon/St. Francis of Assisi Parish, West Des Moines

Come and meet (some of) our recently ordained priests and hear their unique journeys to the priesthood. You may think you know their stories but come and learn for yourself! This event will inspire you to make an even stronger commitment to our One, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic Church. Lunch from Chick-fil-A/Fellowship/Program: High Noon, St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church- 7075 Ashworth Rd, West Des Moines, IA 50266 Please register for this event at <https://www.iowacatholicradio.com/events>

2021 FIGHT FOOD INSECURITY GOLF FUNDRAISER

Mark your calendars now for the 2021 Fight Food Insecurity Golf Fundraiser.

Join us Friday, September 17, 2021, at Copper Creek Golf Club. One out of ten Polk County residents suffer from lack of food. All proceeds from this event will go towards keeping our healthy food pantries open to help ensure that nobody goes hungry. Thank you for your continued support and helping us help others. Registration & details on our website www.svdpsdm.org



SEASON OF HOPE GRIEF GROUP DATES AND TIMES

Our first meeting will be Tuesday, September 14th at 2:00 pm in the East Meeting Room. We will have six weekly sessions on Tuesdays from 2:00 pm until approximately 3:30 pm. Our last session will be on October 26th since we will not meet on October 19th due to the parish mission. Please consider joining us if you are mourning the loss of a loved one. Contact Deacon David Schmidt, 279-4654, ext 308 to join or if you have any questions. Peace.

FR. LARRY HOFFMANN ANNIVERSARY MASS

Fr. Larry Hoffmann will celebrate the 8:30am Mass on Sunday, September 12, 2021, for his 50th anniversary..

Mass Intentions



Monday, 6:30 am	September 6 Communion Service
Tuesday, 6:30 am	September 7 † Bob O'Neill
Wednesday, 6:30 am 6:30 am	September 8 † Harold Teater † Deceased Members of the Bagby & McManus Families
Thursday, 6:30 am	September 9 † Thelma D. Allison
Friday, 6:30 am 6:30 am 8:35 am	September 10 † Elroy Wingers † Mary & Kevin Oberreuter - Living † People of the Parish
Saturday 4:30 pm 4:30 pm	September 11 † Ann DePhillips † Harold Teater
Sunday, 8:30 am 8:30 am 10:30 am 10:30 am 4:30 pm	September 12 † Cathy Leo † Donna Mullenix † Janet Harris † Richard Heger † People of the Parish

Joseph, Protector of the Church

Brave Joseph, collaborator in God's project for humanity, your tenderness enfolds the newborn Church. Just as Mary and Jesus recognize in you the protection of the Father, so too does the community of faith place itself under your protection.

Strengthen us with the Spirit that filled the Nazarene home and guide our footsteps on the road to the Kingdom.

Accompany us in carrying out our mission. Help us to be lights in the world so that the family of God may spring forth from humanity transfigured in Christ.

Grant us the strength to imitate God's preference for the poor and weak. Guide us in our pastoral activities that our actions may be modeled on the Good News. Amen.



Readings for the week of September 5, 2021

Sunday:	Is 35:4-7a/Ps 146:7, 8-9, 9-10 [1b]/ Jas 2:1-5/Mk 7:31-37
Monday:	Col 1:24-2:3/Ps 62:6-7, 9 [8]/Lk 6:6-11
Tuesday:	Col 2:6-15/Ps 145:1b-2, 8-9, 10-11 [9]/Lk 6:12-19
Wednesday:	Mi 5:1-4a or Rom 8:28-30/Ps 13:6ab, 6c [Is 61:10]/Mt 1:1-16, 18-23 or 1:18-23
Thursday:	Col 3:12-17/Ps 150:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6 [6]/Lk 6:27-38
Friday:	1 Tm 1:1-2, 12-14/Ps 16:1b-2a and 5, 7-8, 11 [cf. 5]/Lk 6:39-42
Saturday:	1 Tm 1:15-17/Ps 113:1b-2, 3-4, 5a and 6-7 [2]/Lk 6:43-49
Next Sunday:	Is 50:5-9a/Ps 116:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9 [9]/Jas 2:14-18/Mk 8:27-35

ANNUAL DIOCESAN APPEAL

GOAL	\$124,979.00
GIFTS/PLEDGES	\$131,420.00
REMAINING ON GOAL	\$+6,441.00
PERCENTAGE OF GOAL MET	105.2%
NO. OF GIFTS/PLEDGES	306
AVERAGE GIFT	\$429.48



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