

# ST. THERESA CATHOLIC

FAITH • SERVICE • COMMUNITY • EDUCATION

1230 Merle Hay Rd., Des Moines, IA 50311

515-279-4654

September 25 & 26, 2021



## *26<sup>th</sup> Sunday* IN ORDINARY TIME

“There is no one who performs a mighty deed in my name  
who can at the same time speak ill of me.” - Mk 9:39b

## 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.....jmc michael@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 September 5  
\$ 114590.00

Week Ending September 12  
\$25,571.50

Weekly September Budget  
\$ 35,545.16

Difference  
\$ 4,566.34

YTD Cumulative Difference  
\$ (8,816.31)

Weekly Contributors  
100/174

Building Fund - \$140.00

First Fruits - 74080.00

Church in Africa - \$68.00

Food Pantry - \$265.00

Haiti Relief - \$450.00

CISS Meal - \$690.00

Seminarians - \$2,744.00

## PARISH COMMITTEES

### Finance Council

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

### School Board

Laura Sarcone  
Email.....lauracsarcone@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.....aaronfriess@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](mailto:stsmmedia@stsdsm.com).



Bulletins



# A MESSAGE FROM FR. RAPHAEL



Reflections for Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time  
Theme: **“They do good but are not of our group”**

Dear Friends,

Do you realize there is a part of our human nature that tends to be judgmental?

Well! Sometimes our inclination to judge results in being selective, concluding that others are not worthy of our company.

Our readings for today make God our standard for judging. Whom did God ever leave out of God's love? Who was ever unworthy of God's gifts?

Moses had earlier complained to God that he could not provide for Israel in the desert all by himself. To alleviate the situation, God promised to confer Moses' prophetic spirit on seventy elders. Even though Eldad and Medad were not present in the camp when God conferred Moses' spirit, they still received the gift and began to prophesy. The lesson is that God's ability to share the spirit is not restricted. God is the measure.

In our second reading, the author of James maintains that the rich have mistreated their employees. Since they withheld the wages that were due, their silver and gold will corrode, and their garments will fall prey to ravaging moths. The wealthy have not realized that God is the God of the poor and intercedes on their behalf.

In today's gospel passage, Mark brings together the sayings of Jesus. In the first saying, Jesus rejects the selectiveness of the disciples (verses 39-40); in the second (verse 41), anyone who gives the disciple a drink will belong to Christ; in the third (verse 42), Jesus holds up the little ones as totally dependent on God, whom no one may lead astray. Narrow vision will not capture the kingdom.

Narrow vision impedes our growth in faith. God empowers all people with love. God invites us to bend a little and make a sincere attempt to understand the behaviors and views of others. Perhaps, they too, have a grain of truth on what they say and do, may be even more than a grain. Whom do we fail to see as worthy of our love? Let us put ourselves in the situation of others and be compassionate. Shalom!

## Holy Humor

A woman had just returned to her home from an evening of church services, when she was startled by an intruder. She caught the man in the act of robbing her home of its valuables and yelled: ‘Stop! **Acts 2:38!**’ (*Acts 2:38 (ESV) says “Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ, for the forgiveness of your sins.”*)

The burglar stopped in his tracks. The woman calmly called the police and explained what she had done. As the officer cuffed the man to take him in, he asked the burglar: ‘Why did you just stand there? All the old lady did was yell a scripture to you.’

‘Scripture?’ replied the burglar. **‘She said she had an Ax and Two ‘38s!’**

## This and that

**Rosary month:** October is traditionally dedicated for praying the Rosary. The Holy Rosary has been described as the powerful weapon on hand and the Bible on beads. The best way to celebrate the Month of the Holy Rosary is, of course, to **pray the rosary** daily. *During October, we shall pray the Rosary 20mins before Mass and every Tuesday during Holy Hour*

**Annual priests’ fall workshop:** This year’s annual workshop is scheduled for October 3-7 in Schuyler, Nebraska. Please be informed there will be communion services from Monday October 4<sup>th</sup> through Thursday October 7<sup>th</sup>.

**THE STARS FALL POTLUCK, SCHEDULED FOR OCTOBER 14TH, HAS BEEN CANCELLED DUE TO THE INCREASE IN COVID CASES.**

## GOD IS GOOD SLOGAN

GOD IS GOOD – ALL THE TIME

ALL THE TIME – GOD IS GOOD

AND THAT IS HIS NATURE



# CATHOLIC SCHOOL



There is no school on Monday, September 27. This is a professional development day for teachers. Teachers will be learning more about Multi Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS) as well as unpacking standards, and analyzing FAST/MAP reading and math data.

Congratulations to our Student Council officers! Elizabeth Melcher is president. Quentin Steinbach is vice-president. Gianni Carra is secretary. Ben Olsen is treasurer. Mr. Williams is the moderator. We look forward to great leadership from these students!

Our students were excited to receive their new Chromebooks last week. We used EANS funding to purchase 300 Chromebooks through the Iowa Department of Education. We also purchased Go Guardian, which is a security software for all of these Chromebooks.

The students look forward to playing soccer with Fr. Raphael at recess! He is very athletic and even better at building relationships with our children!

Middle school students made lunches for Connection Cafe guests. Though students are not yet able to serve the lunches their gifts of service are truly appreciated!

## HELP WANTED

St. Theresa Early Childhood Learning Center is hiring 2-3 high school part-time students (must be 16yo) for help in the childcare for afterschool hours. Job would be to help other adult teachers to monitor and supervise children enrolled in the pre-school programs after school. Hours are 3:30pm-5:30pm, 2-3 afternoons/week. Flexible scheduling around school activities and no weekends or holidays. Great job while attending high school. Please contact Maria Calhoun for more information or interested in applying @ 515-277-3788, opt. #1, or email @ mcalhoun@stsdsm.com



## CUB SCOUT SPAGHETTI DINNER FUNDRAISER

Eat in or take to go. Saturday, October 2nd, following the 4:30pm Mass until 7pm. St. Theresa Parish Hall. Free will donation. Proceeds will benefit the St. Theresa Cub Scouts.

## 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 60<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto: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.

\*Last Thursday is September 30.

## SPONSOR COUPLE TRAINING

There will be a sponsor couple training at the Catholic Pastoral Center (601 Grand Ave, Des Moines, IA 50309). The training will be hosted on October 23<sup>rd</sup> from 1 pm until 4 pm. **Participants can join this training in person, or via zoom.**

This training will equip couples to use the FOCCUS instrument and assist the engaged as they prepare for marriage. Couples must register for this training, and can do so directly with me at [astorey@dmdiocese.org](mailto:astorey@dmdiocese.org) or 515-237-5056. To participate virtually, couples must be registered by October 9<sup>th</sup> so that materials may be mailed in advance.



# YOUTH MINISTRY



Megs Howes, Youth Minister

Cell (515) -720-4060

mhowes@sainttheresaiowa.org Website: [www.sainttheresaiowa.org/](http://www.sainttheresaiowa.org/) (Under Faith Formation Tab)

Edge meets from 6:30-7:30 in the Community Center in the school

October dates: 6, 13, 16

Lifeteen meets from 6-8pm in the Parish Hall

October dates: 6, 13

**Confirmation Prep Sessions Starts September Oct 13!**

Confirmation Prep Sessions for C1 (9<sup>th</sup> grade or older) and C2 (10<sup>th</sup> grade or older) will begin Wed. Sept. 12, 6:00-8:00pm in the parish hall. Contact Megs if you have questions or still need to register your student! Check out the Youth Ministry website for more information.

## Church Photo Directory



### PARISH PICTORIAL DIRECTORY

Heads up and faces forward – St. Theresa Parish will be producing a new pictorial Parish Directory in 2022. This edition will allow absent families to submit their own family photos to include in the directory as well as an on-line version and a phone application with numerous enhancements available. In addition it will provide an excellent opportunity for our various religious and social programs to highlight their mission. The first photo “shoot” will be scheduled for the week of February 8<sup>th</sup> to the 12<sup>th</sup> with alternative dates to be set up in May and June. It may be early but mark your calendars NOW! If you’d like to be part of the planning group please let Mike Smith know at [michaelsmith@stdsm.com](mailto:michaelsmith@stdsm.com) or by calling 515-279-4654.

### ANNUAL LIFE CHAIN

Please join fellow St. Theresa parishioners at the annual Life Chain on **Sunday, October 3rd from 2:00 to 3:30 pm**. We will make a socially distanced human chain of prayer at St. Theresa's along Merle Hay Road.

Life Chain is a national effort and one of the largest peaceful, prayerful, pro-life witnesses in the world. It is a visual statement of solidarity that the Church supports the sanctity human life from the moment of conception to natural death. We quietly stand together to remember the more than 59 million lives lost to abortion, and we pray especially for vulnerable pregnant women and their babies, that they would have the support and protection they need.



Life Chain will happen rain or shine. Come and bring a friend! Hope to see you there!



### SPIRITUAL ADOPTION PROGRAM

#### **MONTH 1 – Developing Baby – “My heart is beating!” Spiritual Adoption Program**

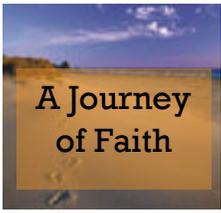
Your spiritually adopted baby has been quite active over the past month. Already your baby is 10,000 times bigger than at conception. Your baby has developed the foundations of his brain, spinal cord, and nervous system by the 20th day. His heart began to beat on the 21st day, pumping blood through its own circulatory system and the blood type can be different from his mother's. Your baby is most vulnerable during the next month of being aborted. Pray that the Lord of Life might move the heart of his mother to give him the most precious gift of all - - the gift of life.



# 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. 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](mailto:bwoods@stsdsm.com). No decisions have to be made right away. You might want to just

come and see what it's all about!

**Remember: RCIA is a parish process. It doesn't work unless the parish is involved. We are now looking for hosts for Sunday morning at 9:30am, storytellers and sponsors. Is anyone in the parish ready? Call Barb**

## Eucharistic Adoration



Eucharistic Adoration is the adoration of Jesus Christ present in the Holy Eucharist, which is displayed in a special holder called a monstrance. This is a way to be present with the Lord and focus on actively listening to His word through prayer. People come to pray and worship Jesus continually throughout the day. Christ's great love for us was shown when he was crucified on the cross to pay the penalty for our sins and give us eternal life. After the Last Supper, Christ asked His apostles to pray for one hour with Him. Can we not give Jesus a few minutes of love and adoration as well?

Here at St. Theresa we will begin Adoration on the First Friday of the month from 7-8:15am and 10am – 6pm. There will be the reciting of the Divine Chaplet at 3 pm and confessions from 3:30-4:30pm, with Benediction to close adoration. Sign up for a time at the entrance to the church for the October 1 adoration. Christ, present in the monstrance, should never be alone. Come and spend at least a half hour in His presence.

## Highway to Halos!

Prepare for All Saints Day! Packets have been given to all students in school and Wednesday Faith Formation. If you still need one, check the entrances of the church or call the Parish Office.

The first challenge not in the packet is in the back of church. It is a picture of 77 saints. Take a sheet and perhaps a picture on your phone, then see how many you can name before November 1. There is a sheet to help you with the numbering. Believe me, it is a challenge. Enjoy!



## Want to be a lector or a Minister of the Eucharist? Mark your calendar!

**Lectors proclaim the Word of God. Ministers of the Eucharist share the Body and Blood of Christ. These are special ministries as well as a privilege.**

**There will be a training for new EMs and lectors on Saturday, October 16, at 10am in the church. Please let us know you are coming so we will have materials ready.**



## Parish Mission: What Does It Mean To Be Catholic Today?

**Fr. Tom McCarthy, O.S.A.**

**Dates: October 17, 18, 19, 2021**

**with Fr. Tom Preaching at all weekend Masses**

**Come and be renewed in spirit!**

**Babysitting available as well as childcare below 1<sup>st</sup> grade.**



## September 26 - Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time:

In today's gospel Jesus tells his disciples: "Anyone who gives you a drink of water because you belong to Christ will not, I assure you, go without his reward." On September 27, the Church will celebrate the feast of St. Vincent de Paul. The members of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul are on the front line in laboring for the poor, they are among the first to know their real needs.

# Mass Intentions



<b>Monday,</b> 6:30 am	<b>September 27</b> Communion Service
<b>Tuesday,</b> 6:30 am	<b>September 28</b> † Tim Hughes † The Unbound Community
<b>Wednesday,</b> 6:30 am	<b>September 29</b> † Bill & Joan Martin - Living † Bob O'Neill
<b>Thursday,</b> 6:30 am	<b>September 30</b> † Jill Dempsey † Loren Roiger
<b>Friday,</b> 6:30 am 8:35 am	<b>October 1</b> † Loren Roiger † Jim Durbala
<b>Saturday</b> 4:30 pm 4:30 pm	<b>October 2</b> † Carl Laurenzo † Pat Teater
<b>Sunday,</b> 8:30 am 8:30 am 10:30 am 10:30 am 4:30 pm 4:30 pm	<b>October 3</b> † John & Marilyn Caffrey † Elroy Wingers † Allan & Eleonora Barclay † Dr. James Lavia † People of the Parish † The Unbound Community

## 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 26, 2021

Sunday:	Nm 11:25-29/Ps 19:8, 10, 12-13, 14 [9a]/ Jas 5:1-6/Mk 9:38-43, 45, 47-48
Monday:	Zec 8:1-8/Ps 102:16-18, 19-21, 29 and 22-23 [17]/Lk 9:46-50
Tuesday:	Zec 8:20-23/Ps 87:1b-3, 4-5, 6-7 [Zec 8:23]/Lk 9:51-56
Wednesday:	Dn 7:9-10, 13-14 or Rv 12:7-12a/Ps 138:1 -2ab, 2cde-3, 4-5 [1]/Jn 1:47-51
Thursday:	Neh 8:1-4a, 5-6, 7b-12/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11[ 9ab]/Lk 10:1-12
Friday:	Bar 1:15-22/Ps 79:1b-2, 3-5, 8, 9 [9]/Lk 10:13-16
Saturday:	Bar 4:5-12, 27-29/Ps 69:33-35, 36-37 [34]/Mt 18:1-5, 10
Next Sunday:	Gn 2:18-24/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5, 6 [cf. 5]/ Heb 2:9-11/Mk 10:2-16 or 10:2-12

## ANNUAL DIOCESAN APPEAL

<b>GOAL</b>	<b>\$124,979.00</b>
<b>GIFTS/PLEDGES</b>	<b>\$135,253.03</b>
<b>REMAINING ON GOAL</b>	<b>\$10,274.03</b>
<b>PERCENTAGE OF GOAL MET</b>	<b>108.2%</b>
<b>NO. OF GIFTS/PLEDGES</b>	<b>318</b>
<b>AVERAGE GIFT</b>	<b>\$425.32</b>



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