



News for You!

FALL 2021

School

5810 Cara Carpenter Avenue
Des Moines, Iowa
50311-2098
515.277.0178

Parish

1230 Merle Hay Rd
Des Moines, Iowa
50311-2098
515.279.4654



Welcome New Members

Warm welcome to these recently registered members of the parish:

Nicole Scatino Talley-
Kelly and Brittany
Schneider
Charles and Maureen
Louch
Cecilia Kent
Rebecca May
Gayle Perbera
Mike and Colleen
Smith
Annie Tyrrell
Ryan and Steffanie
Masters

ST. THERESA'S CHURCH UNDER THE MICROSCOPE BY FR. RAPHAEL

Ever since I arrived in this Parish, many parishioners have expressed their willingness to assist me in whatever way they can and to make me feel at home. Many have demonstrated the Latin expression "facta non verba" meaning **actions speak louder than words**. **It is a fact that there are many parishioners who put their shoulder to the wheel in order to volunteer for the church and school. This spirit of volunteerism is remarkable and worthy of emulation.**

This parish is my second assignment in the Diocese of Des Moines. It comes at a time when I least expected. However, I am enjoying the hospitality and warmth of parishioners.

Comfort zone and breaking new grounds

Like every human being, we all prefer to remain in our comfort zone than breaking new grounds. Sometimes, our greatest success in life comes from the change we make in new discoveries. In the words of Billy Cox, "Life will only change when you become more committed to your dreams than you are to your comfort zone."

St. Theresa has a lot of talents and dedicated members committed to doing the work of God. One important aspect of pastoral stability is creating a collaborating ministry where parishioners in various ministries and committees work together with their priest in building the Kingdom of God. Priests come and go, but members remain. Therefore, I encourage members to continue to take ownership of this church by encouraging others to be on board.

My pastoral leadership has always been collaboration and servant leadership style. I strongly believe in consensus building by infusing new ideas while keeping to the Tradition of the church and *deposit of faith*.

It is my hope that we evangelize others and embark on a membership drive. In addition, we must continue to make our church a welcoming home for all and sundry as captured in the song by Marty Haugen, **"All Are Welcome: Let us build a house where love can dwell**

and all can safely live, a place where saints and children tell how hearts learn to forgive. Built of hopes and dreams and visions, rock of faith and vault of grace; here the love of Christ shall end divisions. All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place."

The running of each church institution depends on God's guidance, our willingness to respond generously to the call to be stewards of God's gifts – Time, Talent and Treasure. So far, I have witnessed various councils and committee entrusted to helping the Parish move in the right direction. Kudos!

The first face of every pastor is seen by his pastoral initiative. That notwithstanding, it is always good to keep existing pastoral programs while gradually effecting changes or adding other programs.

I am currently working in revamping our Pastoral Council and other committees. My goals are:

- Creating a sound environment for liturgical and personal prayer.
- Building the church as family of God.
- Spiritual growth and formation of members.
- Starting a children's Mass where our kids develop relationship with God. Planning and discussions are on-going at committee level.
- Starting first Friday Eucharistic Adoration.

This Pastoral approach encapsulates strategic evangelization animated with care as envisioned by Pope Paul VI as the *"church's deepest identity and mission."*

In conclusion, let us continue to avail ourselves in whatever ways our ministry is needed. At times, our own light goes out and is rekindled by a spark from another person. Each of us has cause to think with deep gratitude of those who have lighted the flame within us. As St. Paul says, "For this reason, I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands" (2 Timothy 1:6 NIV). Let us keep the flame of love aglow. St. Theresa – Pray for us.

We're back "On the Road Again".

With COVID we ran into detours, roadblocks, huge potholes, closed highways, and much more. Those roads are now opening up as well as new routes and new adventures. We have a new pastor to attend to our spiritual needs, a new parish manager to help with the physical needs, and a renewed staff to bring the parish family together in new ways.

Think about all the roads and pathways in the Bible such as the extensive travels of Jesus, the Road to Emmaus, the march to Jericho, the flight to Egypt, the long walk to Bethlehem, the Exodus from Egypt, the path Mary took to visit Elizabeth and the Via Dolorosa, the walk to the cross. As we regather, let us walk these roads together in a special way this year.

We will travel the "Highway to Halos" meeting the saints big and small. Then a "Colossal Course" awaits us as we head to the crib to celebrate the Incarnation, God made flesh. As we continue the journey, we will arrive at the "Crossroads" where one way leads to the Cross. Event-

ally, we will travel the "Boulevard to the Birthday Bash".

The itinerary will be planned by the staff and presented to you on certain key dates beginning in September. A variety of activities will be presented for you to choose your route. But we will all begin together and end up at the same destination. The adventure is for people of all ages willing to take the trip. The more activities you participate in, the more your faith will grow. The more you share, the more people you will encounter. Take the challenge and travel with us.



Our first packet will be ready September 15. The activities will take us on a journey on the Highway to Halos so that we will be ready for All Saints Day and All Souls Day. Besides the packet, there will be extra activities as well as challenges at the entrances to the church. Hope you are ready to have some fun!

St. Theresa Council #5389 of the Knights of Columbus Contact: Brian Tingleff, 515-720-8982

Knights Adapt to Life with Covid

K of C Council 5389 is learning to live with Covid-19 restrictions. Our regular monthly meetings have now returned to in-person gatherings in the parish hall (with social distancing) on the first Thursday of the month with dinner at 6 p.m. and the meeting and rosary starting at 7 p.m. We've been conducting our annual summer Tootsie Roll Campaign to benefit charities working with People with Intellectual Disabilities. Members have taken advantage of the hospitality of the Windsor Heights Hy-Vee and the Price Chopper on Ingersoll to stand outdoors and distribute tootsie rolls and collect loose change.

The last Sunday in August we held our first pancake breakfast to benefit the St. Theresa Youth Ministry Program and served nearly 120 breakfasts. There was a bit of a learning curve using the new kitchen appliances, but they are a wonderful addition, thanks to the hard work and generosity of the women of STARS!

Our membership drive is now an online process (thanks to Covid) that can be initiated from the comfort and safety of your own home! The initiation ceremony for new members **AND** those needing to complete their second and third degree are now done at one ceremony and open to the public. Council 5389 will host **New Member Ceremony on Sunday, October 24, 2021, in St. Theresa Church after the 10:30 a.m. Mass.** The first step is to visit the Knights of Columbus website at <https://www.kofc.org/secure/en/join/join-the-knights.html>.

What's it take to join the Knights of Columbus? "Since 1882, membership in the Knights of Columbus has been open to men 18 years of age or older who are "practical" (that is, practicing) Catholics in union with the Holy See. Since that time, the Knights of Columbus has understood "practical catholic" to mean a Catholic who accepts the teaching authority of the Catholic Church on matters of faith and morals, aspires to live in accord with the precepts of the Catholic Church, and is in good standing in the Catholic Church."

Plans are under development for our next Pancake Breakfast scheduled for October 10, 2021 after the morning Masses. We'll be wrapping our Tootsie Roll Drive up with parishioners having a chance to donate loose change after Masses one weekend this fall. Watch the bulletin for more details as we continue to adjust to life with Covid-19!



Parish Mission

What does it mean to be Catholic today?

Evening 1 -- The *Saints* – Are they the heroes of our faith?

Evening 2 – *Prayer* – Is it worth it?

Evening 3 –*The Family of Faith* – What is my part in being an active part of this family?

Mark the Dates:
October 17-19, 2021
Right Here!!!!

Rev. Thomas R. McCarthy, O.S.A.



Father Tom is an experienced teacher, administrator, retreat director and parish mission preacher.

He is a native of the South Side of Chicago. Fr. Tom entered the Midwest Province of the Augustinian Order in 1987. After completing his novitiate, he attended Catholic Theological Union in Chicago and graduated with a Master of Divinity degree. In 1993 he made his solemn vows as an Augustinian Friar and in 1994 he was ordained to the priesthood.

Fr. Tom ministered for 21 years at St. Rita of Cascia High School in Chicago as a teacher, campus minister, Principal, President and Chairman of the Board of Directors. He ministered for nine years as the Vocation Director for the Our Mother of Good Counsel (Midwest) and five years for St. Thomas of Villanova (Eastern) Province.

Fr. Tom ministered in Rome as part of the Pontifical Council for the Promotion of the New Evangelization where he was named a Papal Missionary of Mercy by Pope Francis in 2018.

Fr. Tom is currently in his 12th year as Vocation Director for the Midwest Province and is the Director of St. Rita of Cascia Shrine Chapel in Chicago, IL. Father Tom is also the Prior of the Pre-Novitiate Community of St. Clare of Montefalco Friary in Chicago. He continues to preach parish missions and lead retreats. You can find more information on his website www.frtommccarthy.com

The St Theresa Food Pantry now has a completed outside waiting area where guests can wait with some protection from the weather. This has been a work in progress since Hansen Construction did the first phase in March. Bill McCarthy completed the outside of the area by adding panels to the front to give some protection from the wind, rain, etc. Jim Egger built the corner benches inside on each end to give people a place to sit while they are waiting. And Celeste Egger put the finishing touch of adding mulch to give it a really inviting look. All these combined efforts will have a lasting impact on the people we serve!



The St Theresa Food Pantry serves anyone who comes to our church office door in need of food. We are a supplemental, emergency food pantry that offers a wide variety of food, with an emphasis on fresh food. A typical household would receive milk, eggs, butter, fresh fruit/veggies, bread, an assortment of fresh HyVee entrée and side con-

tainers, frozen meat, and an assortment of canned/package food. As a member agency of the Food Bank of Iowa, we receive 600-900 pounds of fresh, frozen, canned and packaged food delivered each week. We also pickup twice a week from HyVee Fast & Fresh on 73rd & Hickman. The HyVee food donations are ready-to-eat meals, salads, sandwiches, sides, and desserts that really put smiles on the faces we serve. Additionally, we get daily donations of artisan bread from St Kilda's bakery.

Could you or someone you know benefit from food assistance? We invite you to check out our pantry. With our emphasis on fresh food, we do not fit the stereotype most people have of food pantries giving out just canned foods. The St Theresa Food Pantry is open Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, 10-1:45, and is staffed by caring volunteers. For more information about the pantry or to get an appointment outside pantry hours, call or text Anita at 515-216-0908.

Cub Scout Spaghetti Dinner June 26

St Theresa Troop 71 held a Spaghetti Dinner for take out or socially-distanced eat-in at the Parish Hall on Saturday, June 26, after 4:30 Mass. It was a great success!

Coffee and Donuts Came Back!

Coffee & Donuts returned on June 6 following 15 months off due to COVID 19. Renew old friendships and meet new parishioners after 8:30 and 10:30 Masses in the Parish Hall. Organizations and individuals are encouraged to commit to serving every few months. Tory Tyrrell is Coffee & Donuts coordinator and will gladly help you sign up. Reach her at Tory.Tyrrell@gmail.com or 319-217-9375.



Baptisms



"We now ask God to give this child new life in abundance through water and the Holy Spirit."

WELCOME TO THE ST. THERESA FAMILY!

- May 9, 2021 Ivy Kathleen Mullins
(Patrick & Thalia)
- May 14, 2021 Bryce Aaron Avise
(Nicholas & Lindsay)
- June 6, 2021 Norah Ainsley McConville
(Nicholas & Allison)
- June 19, 2021 Alivia Ryan Shineflew &
Austin David Shineflew
(Bryan & Stephanie Sissel)
- June 20, 2021 Lennon Mae Schneider
(Kelly & Brittany)
- July 18, 2021 Isaac Michael Ohrt
(Jonathan & Laura)
- July 24, 2021 Charlie Dee Biddlecome
(George & Hillaree)

Deaths

"May their souls and all the souls of the faithful departed rest in peace."



- May 11, 2021 David Belluchi
- June 16, 2021 Rosetta Ann Pfaff
- December 4, 2019 Darrell Griep
- January 6, 2021 Theresa Griep
- August 3, 2021 Judy Chase

Weddings

"Where two become one"



- Daniel Keith Hanson & Rebekah
Ann Akers
June 11, 2021
- Zachary Steven Zahn & Alexandria Leigh Smith
August 7, 2021 - Validation

September

- 12 Confirmation Interviews 11:30am – 2pm
- 13 Adult Study Groups Begin
- 16 Cards & Games 2-4 pm,
Faith Formation Council 6:30 -8pm
- 18 Confirmation Interviews 9am –noon
- 19 Catechetical Sunday
- 22 First Reconciliation Parent Mtg. 6:45 -:30pm
- 27 School Professional Development Day

October

- 1 Feast of St. Therese (Friday)
- 3 Life Chain on Church Lawn 2:00 – 3:30 pm
- 7 Lunch and Learn 10 am Parish Hall
- 9 Baptism Class 9-11:30am
- 11 2:30 Dismissal; School Conferences
- 12 2:30 Dismissal; School Conferences
- 14 School Conferences/No School
- 14 Anointing of the Sick Mass 10:30am
- 15/18 No School – Professional Development
- 16-20 Parish Mission
- 21 Cards & Games 2-4 pm,
Faith Formation Council 6:30 -8pm
- 30 Mass of Remembrance 10:00 am

November

- 1 All Saints Day 6:30, 8:30 am & 6 pm Mass
- 2 All Souls' Day
- 3 First Reconciliation Learning Centers
- 4 Lunch and Learn 10 am Parish Hall
- 13 PTC Gala
- 13/14 Rite of Enrollment for Confirmation
- 14 Sponsor & Candidate Meeting 12-1:30pm
- 15 Professional Dev. No School
- 16-17 First Reconciliation 6:30pm
- 18-21 NCYC
- 19 Cards & Games 2-4 pm,
Faith Formation Council 6:30 -8pm
- 20 Morning of Reflection for Reconciliation
- 20 Fall Clean-Up

Mark December 4 for the Christmas Bazaar!

Returning to Schedule:

Mass Times

- Saturday 4:30 pm (livestreamed)
- Sunday 8:30 am (livestreamed)
- Sunday 10:30 am
- Sunday 4:30 pm

Reconciliation

- Saturday 8:30 - 9:30 am
- By appointment

Holy Hour: Tuesdays 7:00 pm



Our parish school is off to a fantastic start! Classes began on August 23. PreKindergarten joined us on September 1. Our children are praying, working hard, learning, reading and being kind. It really is a great start!

We welcome Ashley Ver Schuer as our new 2nd grade teacher. We are still looking for a half-time math interventionist and three part-time classroom aides. We have an opening in our school kitchen as well. This is a wonderful opportunity to work in a faith-filled community environment. For more information please call the school office at 277-0178.

We are so excited to welcome Fr. Raphael! He blessed the students, their backpacks and the teachers at our first all-school Mass. Fr. Raphael has been present in the classrooms, the lunchroom and at recess. Students even learned two of his favorite songs that they sang with him at our first Mass.

Discover the Difference: The Human Genome Project comes to St. Theresa School. Inspired. Driven. Enthusiastic. These are all words members of the St. Theresa Catholic School community use to describe middle school science teacher Ronda McCarthy. So it is no surprise that she once again sought out grant funding to bring innovative STEM programming to her classroom. McCarthy was not alone in her efforts as several of her colleagues also submitted grant applications. As a result, the school received eight STEM Scale-Up Grants to implement various STEM-based learning projects for the 2021-2022 school year. McCarthy applied for four grants in total. One grant, in particular, would bring DNA science to her classroom through the SoapyCilantro Project.

"Genetics is a subject that is so important to our world," said McCarthy. "Providing my students an opportunity to learn about the human genome using STEM and incorporating real-world connections is invaluable. I couldn't wait to apply for this grant!"

According to Drake University, "The SoapyCilantro Project aims to address the lack of trained personnel in the

area of genomics and precision medicine, the future of human health care," (Drake University, 2021). The SoapyCilantro Project was not new to McCarthy. She had previously worked with Dr. Pramod Mahajan and Drake University to evaluate the SoapyCilantro STEM kits and their use in the classroom.

By applying genetic sequencing and genomic concepts from the Human Genome Project, SoapyCilantro can identify how variations in human genes can impact their traits. Moreover, the program highlights how understanding these genetic variations applies to the practice of precision medicine. The SoapyCilantro Scale-Up Grant provided a three-credit continuing education course for Iowa STEM educators, a SoapyCilantro education kit, and a lesson plan for these educators to use in their 6-12 grade classrooms. McCarthy and colleague, Ashley Mitchell, completed the genetics course at Drake University this summer in preparation for the 2021-2022 school year.

"We study DNA and the human genome because this area of science is exploding with discoveries that affect all humanity," exclaimed McCarthy. "From using mRNA technology to develop vaccines to discovering a cure for some cancers, this is important work that may hold the keys to unlocking new cures and treatments for many health conditions. The next generation of scientists will carry this research further than we can imagine in the future."

McCarthy plans to introduce genetics concepts to her seventh-grade students and offer a more intense hands-on discovery of human genetics using the SoapyCilantro STEM kits with her eighth-graders. Using the SoapyCilantro kits, students will conduct a taste test using fresh cilantro leaves and document their taste - spicy, mild, mildly spicy, or soapy. Students will also collect samples of their cheek cells to identify the gene responsible for cilantro taste and detect their genotype.

"Science is everywhere and affects all of our lives. I love to help my students become passionate about science and make real-world connections to what they have learned," shared McCarthy. "I especially love to work with underrepresented populations of students because we need everyone interested in this learning to feel like they fit in and belong in this field."



It pleases Him to create great Saints, who may be compared with the lilies or the rose; but He has also created little ones, who must be content to be daisies or violets, nestling at His feet to delight His eyes when He should choose to look at them. The happier they are to be as He wills, the more perfect they are.

St. Therese of Lisieux



Stay Connected with St. Theresa Youth Ministry....



[https://www.facebook.com/
StTheresaYouthGroupDSM](https://www.facebook.com/StTheresaYouthGroupDSM)



<https://instagram.com/stackymdsm/>



<https://twitter.com/stackymdsm>



[https://sainttheresaiowa.org/middle-and-high-
school-youth-ministry/](https://sainttheresaiowa.org/middle-and-high-school-youth-ministry/)

Megs Howes, Youth Minister Cell #: 515-720-4060

Email: mhowes@stsdsm.com

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 6:00 pm -8:00pm. There is a fee associated with these programs. If you still need to register please contact Megs! Check out the Youth Ministry website for more Information.

Confirmation Prep Sessions Starts September 15! Confirmation Prep Sessions for C1 (9th grade or older) and C2 (10th grade or older) will begin Wed., Sept. 15, 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.

C1/C2 Confirmation Interviews

Date: September 12 & 18

Each interview is 30 minutes and will take place in the parish office. During the interview there will be two Confirmation or RCIA Core Team members along with the candidate. The purpose of the inter-

views are to see what the candidate hopes to achieve during this two-year process. Check the youth ministry website to sign up. Contact Megs at mhowes@stsdsm.com with any questions.

What did one eye say to the other?

Something between us smells. Get it? Hopefully this goofy little joke made you laugh because laughter is very good for you. That is no joke! According to the Mayo Clinic website there are both short and long term benefits to laughing:

Short term benefits of laughter:

- Stimulates many organs - the heart, lungs, and releases endorphins in the brain
- Activates and relieves your stress response – decreases the heart rate and blood pressure
- Soothes tension – stimulates circulation and aids muscle relaxation

Long term benefits of laughter:

- Improves your immune system – releases neuropeptides that help fight stress
- Relieves pain – causes the body to produce its own natural painkillers
- Increases personal satisfaction – makes it easier to cope with difficult situations
- Improves your mood – lessens stress, depression and anxiety

So what did the bartender say to the pair of jumper cables that walked into the bar? I will serve you as long as you don't start something.

Laughter truly is the best medicine! With all the challenges and stress present in our lives today, why not consider taking a daily dose of laughter by spending time with people who make you laugh, learn to laugh at yourself, watch funny pet videos online or a funny movie. Perhaps even learn a good joke like: So how do you make a Kleenex dance? Put a little boogey in it!

On a more serious note, please mark your calendars for our upcoming **Anointing of the Sick Mass, Thursday, October 14th, at 10:30 am** and our annual **Mass of Remembrance on Saturday, October 30th, at 10:00 am**. It is hoped that you will be able to join us for these special liturgies.

May you grow in humor and holiness this Fall. Joyfully, Deacon David Schmidt



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.

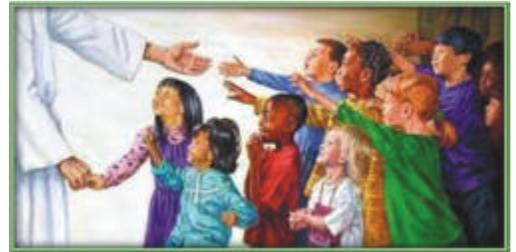
For over 25 years, a dedicated core group of St. Theresa volunteers this monthly ministry to feed the homeless in our city. Please consider joining our team.

“Let the little children come to me.” Mt 19:14

With great joy, St. Theresa Parish welcomes families to a new year of faith formation!

We are so excited to be together again on Wednesday evenings. We have new curriculum, some new catechists & families and the opportunity to share Jesus’ love! What could be better! Our focus for the year is to build disciples. Each week a particular virtue will be emphasized in class and at home through dialogue and service. Parents, we are here to support you in the holy task of passing on the Faith - a living, thriving Faith in Action.

Not yet registered? Just go to the parish website (sainttheresaiowa.org) and click on the **“Faith Formation”** tab. From there you will click on **Elementary Formation**. Click on **2021-2022 Faith Formation Registration Form**. The calendar for the year is available as well, just click on 2021-2022 Faith Formation Schedule.



Fr Raphael Meet and Greet

More than 100 people attended the “Meet and Greet Reception” for our new pastor, Fr. Raphael Assamah, on Sunday, July 11, in the Parish Hall. Sr. Jude Fitzpatrick, long-time parishioner, introduced Fr. Raphael to the crowd and welcomed him on behalf of the entire parish. The group that makes quilts presented one to Father, who was also serenaded with the Happy Birthday song.

STARS Service and Hospitality Committee, under the direction of Tricia Lloyd, provided a bounty of snacks and beverages. Barb Chicoine and other St Vincent De Paul volunteers mounted the poster display and assisted Sharon Dante with table decorations. The Welcome Committee greeted guests, and the Knights of Columbus led by Bob Lawler made quick work of clean-up before 4:30 Mass.

2021 ST VINCENT DE PAUL 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.svdpsm.org

September 12 -of a loss of a job or an illness? Please leave a message for the Society of St. Vincent de Paul...we want to help! 515-979-5172



Ordination Anniversary

Fr. Raphael Assamah and friends concelebrated Mass Monday, August 23, to mark their ordination anniversaries. Fr. Raphael Assamah and Fr. Philip Bempong were ordained 13 years ago, and Fr. James Ahenkora 14 years ago.



Fair Weather Rosary

The STARS Prayer and Faith Enhancement Committee faithfully led a rosary every other Thursday evening outdoors (weather permitting) throughout the spring and summer. Dates are in the bulletin.



Marj Akers Anne Dols
Joanne Lenox

Kathie Swift Alisha Friess
Kay Cross

SAVE THE DATE!

STARS Fall Potluck

Oct 14 5:30 PM

Parish Hall



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 along Merle Hay Road.

peaceful, prayerful, pro-life witnesses in the world. It is a visual statement of solidarity that the Church supports the sanctity of 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 is a national effort and one of the largest

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

Hello, Catholic Circle of Faith at St. Theresa,

GDM Habitat will host volunteers at 1412 Stuart, Des Moines, GDM Habitat's 2021 Catholic Circle of Faith build site starting September 30.

Registration is currently available to CCOF individuals and groups through this private link: [Catholic Circle of Faith Volunteer Registration](#). We have many available slots between September 30 and December 18. 10 volunteers are needed each shift.

For more than a decade, CCOF has been a key partner in helping families achieve the dream of homeownership. Many parents and children have weathered the challenges of the past year-plus with a greater sense of security and stability because of the time, talents, treasure, and prayers you have offered. Any questions please contact Celeste Egger @ 480-8358.

