

ST. THERESA CATHOLIC

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1230 Merle Hay Rd., Des Moines, IA 50311

515-279-4654

October 2 & 3, 2021



*LIVING THE
GOSPEL ...
ONE LIFE
AT A TIME*

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 26
\$ 18,419.00

Weekly September Budget
\$ 17,772.58

Difference
\$ 646.42

YTD Cumulative Difference
\$ (8,169.89)

Weekly Contributors
110

Building Fund - \$78.00

First Fruits - \$227.00

Food Pantry - \$293.00

CISS Meal - \$45.00

Seminarians - \$263.00

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

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

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



Reflections for Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Theme: A Committed and Lasting Relationship

Dear People of God,

The readings for today set us in a wedding liturgy. Many of us might have heard these readings often. In a society where divorce is paramount, it is expedient to reflect on Jesus' answer to the Pharisees. The readings challenge our sense of commitment to one another. It meant a commitment that two people were making to one another to be faithful to each other in a perpetual union until death. It also reminds Parents the responsibility of teaching their children in their faith.

In today's Gospel, we saw parents bringing their children to Jesus to bless them. Their desire is holy, their efforts commendable, and their example is to be emulated.

Parents Must Bring Their Children to Christ

Parents must bring their children to Christ in their early days. The first duty of parents is to dedicate their children to God, as Hannah in the Old Testament did to Samuel, and to instruct them in their faith in Jesus. They need to teach them to pray, even if it is a simple prayer. Our investment of *time, money, and efforts* in our children in training them up in the Christian faith shall serve as a measure against moral degeneration. King Solomon said, "Train children in the right way, and when old, they will not stray (Pro. 22:6)."

The Kingdom of God Belongs to Those Who are Childlike

When the disciples rebuked the parents, who brought their children to Jesus to be blessed by Him, Jesus was indignant at the disciples. He loved children, and we find Him taking time off from His journey to Jerusalem to take them into His arms and bless them. Children may have too little understanding, but the blessing that Jesus gives shall remain with them for all eternity. "The kingdom of God", said Jesus, "belongs to such as these children." Children are dependent on their parents for everything, and they totally trust them. They are not maliciously ambitious after prominence or fame or power or wealth or position. Their anger is short.

These characteristics of the children are necessary for any man or woman to enter the kingdom of God. Every person must come to God like a child. As a child depends and trusts upon its parents, so we must depend totally on God. As a child who is humble and forgiving, so we must banish pride and hatred from our hearts.

The lesson for us in all these readings is simply this: Emphasize qualities that promote faithfulness. We must honor husbands and wives for their commitment and dedication and congratulate family members for their contributions to the common good. People should be grateful for the unconditional generosity of their friends. No matter how many examples we see to the contrary, loyalty is still number one for Christians.

May Christ, who lovingly embraced the children, and laid His hands on them and blessed them, embrace, and bless each one of us. Shalom!

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 service from Monday October 4th to Thursday October 7th.

BULLETIN ADVERTISING HELP NEEDED

We receive our bulletins for free, because the advertising on the back is supposed to cover the expense. We currently do not have enough advertising to cover the cost of paper and printing for our bulletins. This could cause us to lose our ability to print in color and/or we could lose the number of pages that we are allowed to have.

Our LPI salesperson, Bert, will be coming in a few weeks to sell bulletin advertising. He will be visiting and calling on businesses in the area. If you own your business or work for a company that would be interested in advertising in our bulletin, please email Sue Fitzpatrick at sfitzpatrick@stsdsm.com or call her at **515-279-4654** with the contact information and she will pass it on to Bert. THANK YOU!!



CATHOLIC SCHOOL



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

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 23rd 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 or 515-237-5056. To participate virtually, couples must be registered by October 9th so that materials may be mailed in advance.

Join the Diocese of Des Moines as we celebrate the gift of the Sacrament of Marriage!

Bishop Joensen will be celebrating three anniversary Masses this fall to pray with, bless and honor couples celebrating milestone anniversaries. Certificates of blessing and reserved seating is available for couples celebrating 1, 10, 25 and 50+ years of marriage. A light reception will follow the Mass.

Time and Location:

Saturday, October 30th, 4 PM at St. Ambrose Cathedral, Des Moines, IA

To register call Cathy Gearhart at 515-237-5004 or email her at cgearhart@dmdiocese.org

GOD IS GOOD SLOGAN

**GOD IS GOOD – ALL THE TIME
ALL THE TIME – GOD IS GOOD
AND THAT IS HIS NATURE**



YOUTH MINISTRY



Megs Howes, Youth Minister

Cell (515) -720-4060

mhowes@sainttheresaiowa.org Website: 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 October 13!

Confirmation Prep Sessions for C1 (9th grade or older) and C2 (10th grade or older) will begin on Wednesday, October 13, 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 8th to the 12th 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@stsdsm.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

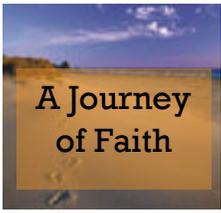
Your spiritually adopted baby has been quite active over the past month. Already your baby is 10,000 times bigger than at conception. Your baby has developed the foundations of his brain, spinal cord, and nervous system by the 20th day. His heart began to beat on the 21st day, pumping blood through its 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. 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!

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 are available at the entrances of the church or call the Parish Office.

A poster of 77 saints is in the back of church. Take the challenge to try to name them. A gift awaits! There is a sheet to help you with the numbering. Also, those who were brave enough to pick up a packet found a rock. Please decorate that rock and place the name of a loved one who has passed. Bring the rock back between October 16 and November 1 and place it in the rock garden in the sanctuary. Your loved one will be remembered in prayer. If you have more than one person, find a rock in your yard and add it to the collection.



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 Barb Woods 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 From 7-8:15pm

Fellowship to follow.

Come and be renewed in spirit!

Babysitting available as well as childcare below 1st grade.



LUNCH & LEARN

Don't forget Lunch and Learn on Thursday, October 7. We begin at 10:00 am with our speaker, Renee, from Northwest Community Center. We will follow with a potluck lunch. Join us in the Parish Hall! Bring a dish, a friend, and a smile.

Mass Intentions



Monday, 6:30 am	October 4 Communion Service
Tuesday, 6:30 am	October 5 † Communion Service
Wednesday, 6:30 am	October 6 † Communion Service
Thursday, 6:30 am	October 7 † Communion Service
Friday, 6:30 am 8:35 am	October 8 † Jill Dempsey † Mary Lou Weuve
Saturday 4:30 pm 4:30 pm	October 9 † Cheryl Tingleff † Jack Dunley & Lawrence Dunphy
Sunday, 8:30 am 8:30 am 10:30 am 10:30 am 4:30 pm	October 10 † Rosetta Pfaff † Joe Timmins † Rose Mary Egan † Teresa Heger † People of the Parish

I LIFT UP MY NEEDS IN PRAYER

Joseph, with Jesus and Mary, you knew hunger, uncertainty, and illness. You turned your heart to God to lift up your needs and those of your family.

In faith you accepted the Father's response as events unfolded.

Be with me today as I offer my requests to the Father.

Joseph, let me recognize God's will as I open my hands to accept what God bestows in loving kindness.

With tenderness, God fills creation with life and love.

Open my eyes to the wonders that God works without ceasing.

Let me learn the true intention behind my request so that I may discover within myself the lowly one that God commends.

Amen.



Readings for the week of October 3, 2021

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
Monday:	Jon 1:1-2:2, 11/Jon 2:3, 4, 5, 8/Lk 10:25-37
Tuesday:	Jon 3:1-10/Ps 130:1b-2, 3-4ab, 7-8 [3]/Lk 10:38-42
Wednesday:	Jon 4:1-11/Ps 86:3-4, 5-6, 9-10 [15]/Lk 11:1-4
Thursday:	Mal 3:13-20b/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6 [Ps 40:5a]/Lk 11:5-13
Friday:	Jl 1:13-15; 2:1-2/Ps 9:2-3, 6 and 16, 8-9 [9]/Lk 11:15-26
Saturday:	Jl 4:12-21/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12 [12a]/Lk 11:27-28
Next Sunday:	Wis 7:7-11/Ps 90:12-13, 14-15, 16-17 [14]/Heb 4:12-13/Mk 10:17-30 or 10:17-27

ANNUAL DIOCESAN APPEAL

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



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