

ST. THERESA CATHOLIC

FAITH • SERVICE • COMMUNITY • EDUCATION
1230 Merle Hay Rd., Des Moines, IA 50311
515-279-4654

January 1 & 2, 2022



The Epiphany OF THE LORD

*“Since from you shall come a ruler,
who is to shepherd my people Israel.” - Mt 2:6b*

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

Tatia Eischeid.....279-4654 x300
 Email.....teischeid@stsdsm.com
 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 December 19
 \$29,445.90

Weekly December Budget
 \$ 26,376.56

Difference
 \$ 3,069.24

YTD Cumulative Difference
 \$ 1,462.30

Weekly Contributors
 133

Food Pantry - \$363.00

First Fruits - \$113.00

TOGO - \$3,365.00

Religious Retirement \$1,370.00

St. Mary's Hamburg- to date
 \$5,815.00

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.....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 Tatia Eischeid at 515-279-4654 x300. Please send submissions to stsmmedia@stsdsm.com.



Bulletins



A MESSAGE FROM FR. RAPHAEL



Cycle C -- Reflections on the Feast of the Holy Family

Theme: **“A Family that Prays together stays together”**

Dearly Beloved in Christ,

Family life is not just the intimate, private relationship we sometimes imagine. The joys and sorrows, the successes and failures of family relate directly to the achievements and disasters of society at large. Our readings for today talk about the family as having a vital impact on the larger unit of community. The activity within the home transcends the environs of family to embrace all humankind.

Nothing like a perfect family

The Gospel throws light on a common problem in families. Should children only look after their parents and relatives or be open to all? Jesus teaches us that to do the will of the Father, we must have the courage to break away from our families. The first reading reminds us of our duty to help our parents. The people we must love are those that God has placed closer to us, our parents, and our relatives.

Luke presents Mary and Joseph as the latter-day Hannah and Elkanah, who presented their son Samuel in the Temple in Shiloh (see 1 Samuel 1 and 2). Luke singles out Mary as the one who will suffer pain when Israel fails to respond.

Celebrating the Holy Family is important for all of us, as we live in a world that is becoming increasingly *selfish, self-seeking, and self-centered*. The ideals and values of Christian marriage and family life are becoming more and more difficult for the men and women of our age.

Image of the secular society

Our secular society often considers the pains and sacrifices that go with marriage and family an unnecessary burden that must be rejected. The men and women of our generation often want to have their pleasures, and they are often not ready to make any serious sacrifices for the sake of the spouse or the child. They are often not ready to forgive the spouse for hurts done them. They often expect too much from their spouse, while they themselves are not ready to give much.

We live in a time where trial marriages and divorce have become an everyday occurrence; a generation where the unfortunate phenomenon of single parenthood is becoming prevalent.

Task of Christian Marriage and Family

For whereas the world runs away from suffering and pain, the Christian has the cross as the means for his or her salvation, for we know that nothing good comes easy. Christian marriage is an enormous task. It may be a bed of roses, but it must be recognized that roses have thorns. The attempt by many people to enjoy the rose and yet reject the thorns is the root of the crisis in marriage and family life in our age. Christian marriage takes time to grow and mature. It entails forgiving an offending spouse and child.

Let us pray for the family to be a model in our society and community. It is our first school and domestic church where we acquire knowledge. Let us imitate the Holy Family to be a model for others. Shalom!

St. Mary Hamburg Parish Solidarity - Special Collection

In response to a need of a sister parish, St. Mary of Hamburg, Bishop William Joensen is requesting financial help for the St. Mary Hamburg Religious Education Center by way of the newly created Parish Solidarity Fund. Your gift will support and further the mission of the Diocese of Des Moines to serve the people of God in southwest Iowa, specifically our brothers and sisters in Hamburg, Iowa who are seeking to build a religious education center. Please send your contribution to St. Theresa, 1230 Merle Hay Rd., Des Moines, IA 50311 and mark “St. Mary Hamburg” on the envelope. There will also be a second collection the weekend of January 8th & 9th. Thank you!



CATHOLIC SCHOOL



Happy 2022! May this year be filled with faith, hope, love and peace!

The entire faculty and staff of St Theresa Catholic School is very grateful for the Christmas bonuses! We appreciate the generosity of this amazing parish!

Classes resume on Monday, January 3, 2022!

Looking for an outstanding Pre-K experience for your children or grandchildren? St. Theresa Catholic School offers an outstanding Pre-K program that is part of the state funded 4 Year Old Grant. Please join us on Thursday, January 13, for an informational meeting to learn more about our programming, our staff, our Childcare and the great experiences awaiting your family!

More Affordable than You May Think...

Catholic schools are an investment in your child's future and offer the best value in education. Plus, we offer flexible tuition options, scholarships and need-based tuition assistance.

Visit www.dmdiocese.org/visit to schedule your virtual visit or personal school tour today.

Like to work with children? We are looking for qualified substitute teachers for our school. If you have a college degree you will just need to take a few classes to receive your substitute license. We will help you with this! For more information please call our school office at 515-277-0178

Are you creative? Do you love kids? Our middle school art position is available for a qualified applicant. This is a one-day-per-week assignment working with our amazing 6th - 8th grade students. Please call our parish school office for more information.

EVERY FAMILY, EVERY MONTH!

The Catholic Mirror diocesan newspaper is mailed to every registered Catholic household every month. Our paper has been instrumental in sharing guidelines, stories of hope and spiritual guidance during this unprecedented time of pandemic. Please consider taking a subscription to The Catholic Mirror to support our work of keeping you up to date on what's going on in our diocesan faith community: dmdiocese.org/giving.

THANK YOU!

St. Theresa Catholic Church Troop 71 would like to thank all parishioners for their generosity in donating their cans and bottles. To date the boy scouts have collected and returned **over 67,000** cans and bottles! We are still collecting so please do not hesitate to contact us by texting your name, home address, phone number to: 515-689-3457 or 515-493-9130 or 515-720-9208. During 2020 and 2021 the following Scouts achieved their Eagle Scout Award, the highest honor in Boy Scouts: Trevor Fitzpatrick, Griffin Rhode, Toby Olsen and Lucas Kramer.

JOB OPENING

Internal Control Specialist – The Diocese of Des Moines has an immediate opening in our Finance Department working with parishes and schools. More information can be found on the Employment page of our website under Diocesan openings. www.dmdiocese.org

VOLUNTEER JOB OPPORTUNITY

Mary's Helping Hands is a newly-approved 501c3 nonprofit, founded in February 2021 to support women and babies in need of basic necessities. We have grown rapidly and are in need of an Accountant/CPA with nonprofit experience. We are specifically looking for someone to work with our Treasurer and assist us with tax accounting, in-kind gifts tracking and monthly budgeting. This role can be 100% remote and would be less than 5 -10 hrs. per week. Please email us @ maryshelpinghandssh@gmail.com if you feel prayerfully called to help.



YOUTH MINISTRY



Megs Howes, Youth Minister

Cell 515-720-4060

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

SAVE THE DATE

C1 & C2 Confirmation Retreat

Saturday, February 5, 2022

10:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. in St. Theresa Parish Hall

The sponsor or a proxy will need to attend this retreat with the candidate. Let Megs know by Saturday, January 29, who will be attending.

Annual Youth Ministry Chili Cook-Off:

Date: Saturday, January 15, 2022

Time: 5:30 p.m.—7:30 p.m.

Location: Parish Hall

Cost: Free will offering

Check out the Youth Ministry website for more information and contact Megs with questions.



SPIRITUAL ADOPTION PROGRAM

MONTH 4 -- Developing Baby -- "I had a dream!" Spiritual Adoption Program

Well, your little baby now weighs six ounces. She has fingernails and eyelashes. She has her own unique fingerprints, which will remain the same until she dies. Her taste buds are working. Her sense of hearing is developing and present at 14 weeks. There are no major developments anymore. At this month rapid eye movements (REMs) can be detected – a sign of dreaming. Your spiritually adopted baby is already well-formed, internally and externally. All she needs now is time to gain weight and grow strong. What a miracle she is!

Man-Up West, January 2022:

Join Us for Our 2022 Kickoff! Our January meeting will be a two-part meeting. First, Matt Willkom, Iowa Catholic Radio's Executive Director, will join us to launch our 4th year of ManUp West Power Lunch. Agenda: an update on Iowa Catholic Radio's Plans for 2022, a description of the "Eucharistic Miracles Display" and the stories behind it as well as an explanation of the process to schedule it for your parish, an update on "Exodus 90", updates on other "Men's Small Group" offerings in the Des Moines Area, and a preview of some of the presentations scheduled for the Power Lunch in 2022.

Friday, January 14th, Noon

A lunch from Chick-fil-A will be available for a free-will offering.

St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church- 7075 Ashworth Rd, West Des Moines, IA 50266

Register for this event at <https://www.iowacatholicradio.com/events>



THANK YOU FROM ST. VINCENT DEPAUL

The members of St. Theresa's St. Vincent DePaul Conference want to wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We are so appreciative of the support you have given to help the poor and needy in our community. We would like to give our parishioners a **Christmas gift** again this year. You will find books located at the entrances of the church. The title is "Life is Messy" by Matthew Kelly. Please take one and enjoy the read. May God bless you and your families during this Holy Season.

GOD IS GOOD SLOGAN

GOD IS GOOD – ALL THE TIME

ALL THE TIME – GOD IS GOOD

AND THAT IS HIS NATURE



ADULT FAITH FORMATION



RCIA is in the Catechumenate phase where we talk about the main beliefs of the Church. Time is going fast and is quite enjoyable. This is a parish event. Therefore, we are in need of two sponsors for Terin and Aubrianna to walk the rest of the journey with them. We are also in need of hosts to bring a treat on Sunday morning after the 8:30 Mass. If you can help us out, call Barb in the Parish Office.

LUNCH AND LEARN

Thursday, January 6, is our Lunch and Learn. We begin at 10 am and finish after a potluck lunch. This Thursday we are going to have some Christmas/Epiphany fun! Come and join us! Bring a potluck dish to share and smile to brighten hearts. RSVP to Barb Woods in the Parish Office. Enjoy the season! Our prayers are with you and your families as you celebrate the "reason for the season."



Young Catholic Network

All young adult professionals in their 20s and 30s are invited to join the Young Catholic Network Speaker Series on Tuesday, January 25th! Join us at 6 PM for an evening of networking and fellowship at the Catholic Pastoral Center in downtown Des Moines. Enjoy complimentary drinks and appetizers while meeting other young Catholics committed to professional and spiritual growth. Sharon Krause of Krause Group (parent company of Kum & Go) and Dalla Terra Ranch will be our featured speaker. She will talk about the alignment of one's personal and faith-based mission in the workplace and beyond! Free childcare is provided if you register by Jan 17. Register today at www.dmdiocese.org/ycn!

BISHOP JOENSEN ON THE RADIO

Hear Bishop William Joensen's weekly radio show on Fridays at 9 a.m. on Iowa Catholic Radio and the Spirit Catholic Radio Network. Tune in to hear "Making it Personal With Bishop Joensen."

Merry Christmas from the Gala

Save the Date

Masquerade 21-22

St Theresa Gala & Auction

MARCH 5TH, 2022

Mass Intentions



Monday, 6:30 am	January 3 Communion Service
Tuesday, 6:30 am	† Deceased Members of Gase & Jenn Families
6:30 am	† Mary Oberreuter
Wednesday, 6:30 am	† Deceased Members of the McManus & Bagby Families
6:30 am	† Mike Duff
Thursday, 6:30 am	† Maria Hanlan
Friday, 6:30 am	† Brian Smith
8:35 am	† Marc Salazar
Saturday 4:30 pm	† Ryan Dang
4:30 pm	† Taylor & Blake Whitman
Sunday, 8:30 am	† Cathy Leo
8:30 am	† Matt Meyer
10:30 am	† Catharine Portz
10:30 am	† Dennis Ashby
4:30 pm	† People of the Parish



COUNSELING AVAILABLE

Catholic Charities has licensed, professional therapists working with clients of all faiths and backgrounds who are addressing depression, anxiety, stress, marital issues, relationship problems, child behavior problems, trauma, abuse and more. Therapy is available in Council Bluffs, Des Moines, and Ankeny. Set up an appointment by emailing sfister@catholiccharitiesdm.org or calling 515-237-5045 or 712-328-3086.



Readings for the week of January 2, 2022

Sunday:	Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 [cf.11]/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12
Monday:	1 Jn 3:22—4:6/Ps 2:7bc-8, 10-12a/Mt 4:12-17, 23-25
Tuesday:	1 Jn 4:7-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4, 7-8/Mk 6:34-44
Wednesday:	1 Jn 4:11-18/Ps 72:1-2, 10, 12-13/Mk 6:45-52
Thursday:	1 Jn 4:19—5:4/Ps 72:1-2, 14 and 15bc, 17/Lk 4:14-22a
Friday:	1 Jn 5:5-13/Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20/Lk 5:12-16
Saturday:	1 Jn 5:14-21/Ps 149:1-2, 3-4, 5 and 6a and 9b/Jn 3:22-30
Next Sunday:	Is 42:1-4, 6-7/Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10 [11b]/Acts 10:34-38/Lk 3:15-16, 21-22 or, Is 40:1-5, 9-11/Ps 104:1b-2, 3-4, 24-25, 27-28, 29-30 [1]/Ti 2:11-14; 3:4-7/Lk 3:15-16, 21-22

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 Associated Ophthalmologists, PC
 Michael J. Versackas, M.D. • S. Ejaz Husain, M.D.
 Naveen A. Husain, M.D. • Chris T. Miller, O.D.
 Jeffrey M. Newland, O.D.
 1212 Pleasant St., Suite 202 • Des Moines, IA 50309
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