



ST. THERESA CATHOLIC

FAITH • SERVICE • COMMUNITY • EDUCATION

1230 Merle Hay Rd., Des Moines, IA 50311

515-279-4654

January 15 & 16, 2022



2nd Sunday IN ORDINARY TIME

Jesus said to her, "Woman, how does your concern affect me?
My hour has not yet come." - Jn 2:4

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.....jmcmmichael@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 26
\$27,812.41

Weekly December Budget
\$ 26,376.56

Difference
\$ 1,435.85

YTD Cumulative Difference
\$ 2,898.15

Weekly Contributors
144

Christmas - \$8,430.83

TOGO - \$2,570.00

Building Fund - \$739.00

St. Mary's Hamburg- to date
\$17,190.00

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



Greetings from Ghana

Dearly Beloved in Christ,

Peace! I would like to register my profound gratitude to you for your prayers and support.

This is to inform you that by God's Grace I have arrived safely in Accra. Thanks to Bob and Susan Downey who took me to the Des Moines airport and waited until I cleared security. Many thanks to all those who attempted to take me to the airport as well. This kind gesture bespeaks of your love and care.

Accra is currently warm with temperatures ranging from 70-90. I am making arrangements to send you some warm weather and sunshine to brighten your day and keep you warm from the Des Moines cold weather. Please check your phone for warm weather alert.

My family is doing fine. The members extend their greetings and appreciation to you. My mom asked if I will be going back. I told her to pray for snow in Ghana so that I remain. She has started praying but Ghana has Never had snow before.

It's nice visiting with old friends and church members. In as much as they would like to see me around, I am also being careful of the virus.

I have missed my church family already. My little angels at the school have been greatly missed. I am praying for you as you do for me.

Long road to Ghana

It is possible many of you are eager to know my journey from Iowa to Accra-Ghana.

When I got up in the morning of January 9th, one thing that was certain was to prepare my mind that wearing my shoe will take me to the evening of Monday, January 10th. After my morning prayer, I set out to church. Celebrating Mass before traveling has become part of my spirituality.

Due to the short window of time to check in, I left immediately before some could trace my footprint. Everything went well from Des Moines to Atlanta. I had about 4hrs layover, which was an opportunity to pray and touch base with others.

The journey continued to JFK in New York. Remember during this time I have to wear my mask throughout.

I had another layover at New York until the flight departed at 11:55pm. As a way of praising myself for wearing my shoes all day along I gave myself a treat. Wow ooo!

The journey from Sunday morning in Iowa finally came to an end on Monday late afternoon when we got off the plane. Hurray!!! Thanks be to God for his traveling mercies.

The pandemic with its precautionary shades of color was another huddle to cross.

Ghana requires all persons entering the country to take another covid test at the airport. Thus, I went through another test and was cleared to go home.

My house from the airport is just about 25mins drive depending on the traffic flow.

So far everything went well as planned. I am indebted to your prayers.

During this vacation, I will take a personal retreat. Then, I will visit the beaches even though I am not good at swimming. I will also drive around the cities to catch up with developments and changes.

Hopefully, I will depart Ghana on February 24th and arrive in JFK at 5:10am the next day. I should finally get home around 6:30pm.

This is just a little note of humor telling you I have arrived safely.

The second reading for this weekend is a call for us to be involved in various ministries. God has given us what it takes to minister in various ways. Currently, we are in need of sacristans to help in setting up for Mass. A close look at ministers will reveal that the same people are putting their hands in every pie. Let us get involved by encouraging others, too. The youth and young adults are encouraged to volunteer as well.

From the other side of the equator, remain Blessed!

Fr. Raphael

GOD IS GOOD SLOGAN

GOD IS GOOD – ALL THE TIME

ALL THE TIME – GOD IS GOOD

AND THAT IS HIS NATURE



CATHOLIC SCHOOL



CATHOLIC EDUCATION IS POSSIBLE BECAUSE OF YOU!

Catholic schools and their students benefit all year long from the religious guidance, prayers and support parishes provide. Thank you to all parishes across the Diocese of Des Moines for supporting Catholic education! On behalf of all our students at St. Theresa Catholic School, thank you for your support! Your generosity not only makes our school possible but successful.

We invite all parishioners to pray for St. Theresa Catholic School and the success of Catholic education throughout our community. Thank you for your prayers and ongoing support. To learn more about Catholic education in the Diocese of Des Moines, please visit dmdiocese.org/catholic-schools.

OPPORTUNITY AWAITS!

100 percent of Diocese of Des Moines Catholic school students graduate high school and 96 percent go on to attend college. Plus, our 2021 graduating class earned more than \$11.7 million in college scholarships! Catholic schools are an investment in your child's future. Expect more. Explore Catholic education. Learn more at dmdiocese.org/catholic-schools.

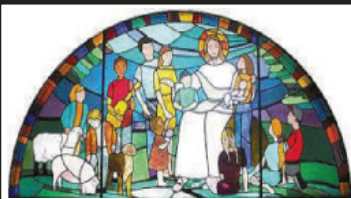
Congratulations to these December Little Flower award winners:

Ben Olsen, Lucas Larson, Antonio Scatino, Brianna Stone, Vincent Cotran, Fiona Collins, Alix Williams, Giuliana Dimon, Deklyn Nolan, Kinsley Giberson, Riley Jones, Vaughn Sullivan, Marian Howard, Ben McNab, Suzy McClavy, Noah Cardenas Bacillio and Zalina Bemisdorfer!

There is no school on Monday, January 17. Teachers will be at Christ the King for Professional Development.

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 some short training through Heartland AEA 11 to receive your substitute license. We will help you with this! For more information, 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.



It's not too late! Sign up now for your child to begin parish religious education.

St. Theresa Parish offers welcoming classes that teach authentic Catholic faith education for children kindergarten through high school. To learn more contact Jane Ann Becicka or Megs Howes in the parish office.

FIRST EUCHARIST PARENT MEETING

Wednesday, January 19, in the Parish Hall from 6:30-7:30 pm. RSVP for babysitting to Jane Ann Becicka at jbecicka@stsdsm.com or call (515) 279-4654 x304. The Learning Centers will be April 20th and May 1st. Eucharist Masses are April 30th and May 1st.



CHILDREN'S FAITH FORMATION SCHEDULE

- Jan 12 Class resumes
- Jan 19 Class
- Jan 26 All-family Mass
- Feb 2 Social Justice Week

CATHOLIC CHARITIES

Remember our smallest clients. Catholic Charities is always in need of diapers (size 3-6) and baby wipes at the Outreach Center. Donations can be dropped off between Monday-Friday between 8:30 a.m. and 4:15 p.m. at 1815 Hubbell Ave. in Des Moines. Financial gifts can be made online at CatholicCharitiesDM.org. Call 515-262-7290 if you have questions.



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

9 a.m. - 11:30 a.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.

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

January 19, 26

February 2, 9, 23

Lifeteen meets from 6-8pm in the Parish Hall.

January 19, 26

February 2, 23

Confirmation Prep Sessions for C1 (9th grade) and C2 (10th grade) will be Wed. February 9, 6:00-8:00pm in the parish hall. Contact Megs if you have questions. Check out the Youth Ministry website for more Information.

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GROW AS A DISCIPLE | PRAY, STUDY, ENGAGE, SERVE

GROW: It was several years ago now, but the scene is still vivid in my mind. My son stood confidently in front of the altar as the music rose in a crescendo and his bride stepped into sight. The love and joy he felt trickled down his cheek as she walked down the aisle. He broke into a smile as she joined him, and proudly took her hand to promise to become one with her forever. Isaiah writes: "As a bridegroom rejoices in his bride so shall your God rejoice in you." Isaiah was talking about the nation of Israel, but God loves and rejoices in each of his children and wants us to know the joy of being loved by him. He generously shares his gifts with us, "different kinds of spiritual gifts but the same Spirit," St. Paul explains to the Corinthians. *All* spiritual gifts come from God, and *all* are important and necessary: "To each individual, the manifestation of the Spirit is given for some benefit." God's gifts are distributed uniquely to each person to use in our own unique way to "announce his salvation, day after day," and invite others to discover the joy of his great love.

GO EVANGELIZE | PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

GO: You are a masterpiece! This message was conveyed at the camp our diocese held each year to help teens recognize that they are God's beloved sons and daughters, called and gifted by the Holy Spirit to be missionary disciples. Discerning what our gifts are and how to use them can be challenging. The Gospel about the wedding at Cana offers an interesting guide. Mary tells the waiters, "Do whatever he tells you." By reserving time for listening and not speaking during prayer, we can hear what Jesus is "telling" us. Jesus then says to the waiters, "Fill the jars with water." We can "fill our jars" with the knowledge of how to live as disciples by reflecting on Scripture. Finally, Jesus tells the waiters, "Draw some out." We can "draw" on his love for strength and courage when we need it, but more importantly, we are called to "draw some out" to share with others. In sharing the "good wine," the Good News of Jesus Christ, others will begin to believe in him, too.

PRAYER: As the new year gets under way, devote time to discerning the unique spiritual gifts, or charisms, you have been given. Make time for silent prayer and reflecting on Scripture each day.

THE BISHOP WANTS TO HEAR FROM US

Bishop William Joensen invites us to take part in a brief survey that will assist our visioning process for the Diocese of Des Moines. We want to hear of your joys and disappointments, your hopes and priorities for our diocesan future. To complete the survey in English, go here:

<https://forms.gle/1mp721t5b8TFcAid8>. The Bishop also invites us to pray that God will grace us with clear vision of His will for the way forward.



ADULT FAITH FORMATION



R - C - I - A... we're going to R - C - I - A...

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.

Liturgical Ministers: Don't forget to go into Ministry Pro to sign up for the weekends between now and March 27. We need your presence. If you forgot your password, let me know and I will send the link to change it.

We will restart the ministry of sacristan by the end of January. This ministry sets up and cleans up the items necessary for Mass as well as opens/closes doors, turns on/off lights and returns things to their proper places. If you are willing to help out or have questions, please let Barb Woods know (515-210-6649 or bwoods@stdsm.com).

All adults: Don't forget cards and games on Thursday, January 20, from 2-4pm in the East Meeting Room. Lots of games to choose from! Great company! Bring a snack to share! Meet new people! Call Barb (515-210-6649) for more information.

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!



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!

CONSIDER TEAMS OF OUR LADY FOR A BETTER MARRIAGE

If you are interested in enriching your marriage, come and meet couples that are already involved with doing just that! TEAMS is a group of 5-7 couples that meet monthly to share a potluck meal, prayer, and discuss topics reflecting on faith and marriage. There are couples of all ages in Teams, with and without children. Join us Monday, January 17, at 7pm at St. John's Basilica (1915 University Ave, Des Moines) to learn more. Childcare provided. Please email Maria & Mark Campbell at maria.campbell@msn.com or Ann & Brian Moylan at ammoyot@yahoo.com with questions and childcare needs.

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."

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

Mass Intentions



Monday, 6:30 am	January 17 Communion Service
Tuesday, 6:30 am	January 18 † Len Burch
Wednesday, 6:30 am	January 19 † Dee Pagliai † Helen & Paul Stadlman † Joe Timmins
Thursday, 6:30 am	January 20 † Matt Meyer
Friday, 6:30 am 8:35 am	January 21 † Eileen Hesselmann † Richard Heger
Saturday 4:30 pm 4:30 pm	January 22 † Annabelle Kelleher † Jim & Bette Lensing
Sunday, 8:30 am 8:30 am 10:30 am 10:30 am 4:30 pm	January 23 † Mary Jo Weuve † Rose Koenigsfeld † Janet Harris † Cindy Green † 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.



Second Sunday in Ordinary time

In the Gospel today, at the wedding feast in Cana, Jesus reveals himself to his disciples and they began to believe in him. Everyday, God also gives us signs of his love and so we also can respond in faith and trust.

Your gift to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul becomes a sign of God's love to those who are suffering, and you give them reason to believe and to trust.



Readings for the week of January 16, 2022

Sunday:	Is 62:1-5/Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 7-8, 9-10 [3]/1 Cor 12:4-11/Jn 2:1-11
Monday:	1 Sm 15:16-23/Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21 and 23/Mk 2:18-22
Tuesday:	1 Sm 16:1-13/Ps 89:20, 21-22, 27-28/Mk 2:23-28
Wednesday:	1 Sm 17:32-33, 37, 40-51/Ps 144:1b, 2, 9-10/Mk 3:1-6
Thursday:	1 Sm 18:6-9; 19:1-7/Ps 56:2-3, 9-10a, 10b-11, 12-13/Mk 3:7-12
Friday:	1 Sm 24:3-21/Ps 57:2, 3-4, 6 and 11/Mk 3:13-19
Saturday:	2 Sm 1:1-4, 11-12, 19, 23-27/Ps 80:2-3, 5-7/Mk 3:20-21
Next Sunday:	Neh 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15/1 Cor 12:12-30 or 12:12-14, 27/ Lk 1:1-4; 4:14-21

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