



ST. THERESA CATHOLIC

FAITH • SERVICE • COMMUNITY • EDUCATION

October 26, 2023 News & Updates

Upcoming Important Dates

10/20/23 8:30 a.m., School Mass - 8th grade

10/26/23 Spirit Day

10/27/23 8:30 a.m., School Mass - 7th grade

10/27/23 Picture retakes 10:00 a.m.

10/27/23 Trunk or Treat 6-8 p.m.

11/1/23 8:30 a.m. School Mass - 6th grade, All Saints Day - Holy Day of Obligation

11/8/23 4th Uniform/Spirit Wear Ordering Deadline

11/9/23 8:30 a.m. School Mass - 5th grade, Veterans Mass

11/9/2023 Family Fall Clean Up 1-3pm

11/10/23 No School-Teacher Professional Development

Social Media - Follow us on Facebook

[St. Theresa Catholic School](#)

[St. Theresa of the Child Jesus Catholic Church](#)

School News

Trunk or Treat

Put on your Halloween costumes and Join us for our annual Trunk or Treat tomorrow evening, October 27, 6-8 p.m. in the school parking lot!

Halloween Candy Grams

Our 8th graders are excited to partner with some of our STCS alumni at DCHS and Mr. Andrew Gross from St. Vincent De Paul, to lead Project \$2023: Teachers For Togo. The goal of this project is to raise \$2023.00 for our sister school in Togo to hire two new kindergarten teachers. Any money that is raised over that amount, will go to start up the first ever lunch program at the school. From now until the end of Advent, our 8th grade students will be leading fundraisers to help raise the money.

In October they are selling Halloween Candy Grams to any student/teacher that would like to buy one. These will be sold from Oct 23-27th and delivered on Tuesday Oct 31st. Every day next week, our 8th graders will be located in your student's hallway from 8 a.m. -8:15 a.m. selling candy grams. The cost is \$1 per candygram or buy \$5 and get one free. It would be helpful if you would send the exact money to school with your students. Thank you for supporting our 8th graders as they join together with DCHS students and St Vincent De Paul to lead this mission.



Calendar Fundraiser

This is the last week to get those calendars filled and turned into school. All calendars and money need to be sent to school by next Friday, November 3.

Winter Concert - Save the Date

Monday, December 11, 6-7 p.m. PK-4th Grade

Monday, December 18, 7-8 p.m. 5-8th Grade Choral & Band Concert

Basketball Jerseys

The athletic department is in search of St. Theresa basketball jerseys. If your athlete has a St. Theresa basketball jersey please return it to the office ASAP. Thank You.

Uniform/Spirit Wear

SmithPro is our original school uniform vendor. All orders through SmithPro are delivered to your student at school. Ordering dates are limited to the predetermined ordering deadlines listed below. SmithPro is the only current vendor to offer our green logo uniform shirt which is required for school Mass days and our spirit wear gear.

Here is what is available:

Uniform shirts – green and navy with school logo

Uniform fleece – black fleece with school logo

SpiritWear Items – sweatshirts, t-shirts and sweatpants with school logo

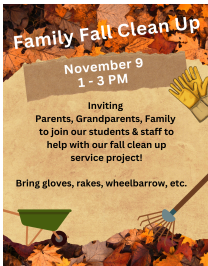
Hats – stocking and baseball hats with school logo

Ordering dates & delivery dates:

*Screen print orders will only be available for ordering twice a year (1st and 4th orders dates) including the uniform t-shirts.

*4th order deadline November 8. Delivery December 11.
5th order deadline December 13. Delivery January 22.
6th order deadline January 24. Delivery February 27.
Last order deadline for the year March 4. Delivery April 9.

If you would like any spirit wear items that are screen printed don't hesitate in ordering as the November 8 deadline is the final ordering date for the school year. Click [here](#) to be directed to the ordering website.



SAVE THE DATE - SCHOOL FALL CLEAN UP

Join our students and staff on Thursday, November 9, 1:30-3:30 p.m. for our fall clean up service project. We invite parents and grandparents to join us in being servants to our school by cleaning up the school and church grounds to help the parish mission Clean Up Project.

Middle School Play Auditions

Save the date for middle school play auditions that will take place after Thanksgiving Break. Practices will run December, January, and February. Performances will take place the weekend of March 1-3.

JMC Registration

Families - Thank you to those of you who have done your JMC registration! For those of you who have not done it yet, will not be able to have your child's picture taken for Facebook posts and your family will not be able to be in our directory. JMC is also where we notify you of important messages, and you can make sure your information is up to date. Here is the information again: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1hVLENOXe8vP7g0Nyb5ZCZqWwvqE48N4fCgoo6He9UMI/edit> Please call Mrs. Jorgensen if you need help or to set up time to come to the office and do it.

Enrollment for 2024-2025 School Year

You are an important part of our school community. We want to save your spot for next year!

Enrollment for 2024-25 is open now, and current families must enroll by November 15 to receive priority. After November 15, enrollment will be open to other families in our parish followed by new families in the broader community.

Next Steps:

- Scan the QR code to complete the [enrollment form](#).
- After this form has been submitted, watch for an email within 2-3 weeks from Blackbaud Tuition Management to set up your account.
- Pay the \$100 per student enrollment fee when setting up your tuition account. (This replaces the registration fee typically due after the first of the year.)
- You will receive a confirmation email from Blackbaud when these steps are completed.



We recognize the revised enrollment process is taking place earlier than what you are accustomed to. We appreciate your assistance as we implement this new process.

If you need assistance with Blackbaud, please contact Joni Swedenhjelm at the Des Moines Regional Catholic Schools office - jswedenhjelm@dowlingcatholic.org or 515-222-1051.

I Love U Guys!

St. Theresa has adopted the I Love U Guys! Standard Response Protocol for K12 beginning with the 2023-2024 school year. We will use these protocols for drills (fire, tornado) and practice exercises (building incident safety) throughout the school year. Drills and practice exercises are important for muscle memory, just like practicing math facts. Attached you will find a [Standard Response Protocol \(SRP\) Facts Sheet](#) for more information. You can also visit the I Love U Guys! website for more information at: <https://iloveuguids.org/>

Our first tornado drill will be held next week.

Parish Mass

We invite all school families to attend Mass on Sunday, November 19 at 10:30 a.m. and represent St. Theresa Catholic School.

We encourage you to wear your school uniform so you are easy to identify as a St. Theresa student. This is an opportunity for our school families to give back to the parish and for the parish to see our school families in action. This is the beginning of a ministry that school families will provide to the church. Each month, different grades will be encouraged to sign up to participate in an assigned mass. Be thinking about how your family can help today. Below is our fall schedule. Here is the link for K, 4th and 6th grade families to sign up: [Nov 19 Mass Sign UP](#)

Date	Time	Classes
Sunday, Nov. 19	10:30 am Mass	K, 4th, 6th
Saturday, Dec.16	4:30 pm Mass	2nd, 3rd, 8th

■ Parent Institute Newsletter October 2023 Elementary School English.pdf

Nonpublic Transportation Reimbursement

Families of students in K-8th grades may be eligible for a nonpublic transportation reimbursement if they live more than two miles away, one-way from St. Theresa Catholic School. Forms must be submitted each semester (due Dec. 1 & May 1) according to the requirements of each district. Eligible families will receive one check following the end of the school year. See below for instructions.

Please click below on the school district in which you reside for instructions:

[Adel DeSoto Minburn](#)

[Ankeny](#)

Dallas Center-Grimes - please [email](#) your [form](#).

[Des Moines Public](#)

DMPS will NOT accept paper copies.

For all other districts, please submit the [reimbursement form](#) to the [public school address](#) in which you reside if you live more than two miles, one-way from STCS.

Parish News

Ushers & Greeters Needed

We are looking for individuals, couples or families for this ministry. Responsibilities include arriving 15 minutes prior to Mass and to make people feel at home. We are all called to a ministry; perhaps this is YOUR ministry! We need to brush up on our hospitality skills. All ushers and greeters, old and new, are asked to attend a workshop on the basics of your ministry as well as have new directions on Thursday, November 16, 2023 at 10:30 a.m. or 6:30 p.m. in the church. RSVP to Barb Woods, bwoods@stdsm.com or 515-210-6649.

Faith Expressions

Join us for our final speaker on October 26th, 5:45 p.m. Mass, 6:15 p.m. Meal, 6:45 p.m. Speaker-Paul Chicoine. We will enjoy a chili dinner together. Please RSVP by clicking [here](#) or jtwells57@gmail.com.



ALTAR SERVER TRAINING

Altar Servers play an important role in the Mass and with developing our relationship with the Church and God. Be that important role! Grow in your faith and help Father!

CALLING BOYS & GIRLS 4TH GRADE & OLDER

Training Times
Wednesday, November 8th 7:30-8:30pm
Thursday, November 9th 7:30-8:30pm
Meet in the church
*Must attend 1 session, 2 preferred

Altar Server Training

The next round of training will be on Wednesday November 8th and Thursday the 9th, 7:30-8:30 p.m. in the church. Contact Josh Tyrell, tyrell.w.j@gmail.com, with questions.

Fall Clean Up Day

FALL 2023 CLEAN UP...is upon us again...the CLEAN UP PROJECT is scheduled for Saturday, November 11 for members of our parish who need a little help with yard clean up or minor home repair. Our Fall Clean Up is now in its 19th year of service to the needs of our parishioners and we thank all those who have been involved in past years and welcome them back again this year! All volunteers - please be in the church parking lot on November 11, at 8:00 a.m. to begin our day. If you are able to contribute to this project in any way, large or small please call us. Please bring your own rake and be ready to work. Thank you! Questions: Sergio Loch at 515-707-6172, or 263-2922; sloch@grandview.edu; Paul Chicoine at 515-979-3822, pcchicoine@gmail.com

Community News

Theology of the Body

International speaker, author, and Theology of the Body Team President, Monica Ashour, will be in Des Moines for two events to share the good news of the Theology of the Body. On Friday, October 27, 6-8 p.m. Monica will be offering a parent presentation at St. Augustin Parish. Registration is not required for this event. On Saturday, October 28, 8:30 a.m. - 3 p.m., Monica will be offering a Theology of the Body Seminar that is open to all at Ss. John and Paul Parish in Altoona. This event includes lunch and costs \$25 (scholarships are available upon request). In order to register, and for more information, visit dmdiocese.org/TOB2023.

DCHS Pancake Breakfast

Please join us for the 62nd Annual Dowling Catholic Pancake Breakfast on October 29th from 7:30 AM - 12:00 PM in the Varied Industries Building at the Iowa State Fairgrounds. Proceeds from this great DCHS tradition support student clubs and activities. To purchase tickets, sign up to volunteer, or donate baked goods, please visit www.dowlingcatholic.org/pancake-breakfast.



Blood Drive Honoring Ava Vaske

Join us for a blood drive honoring Ava Vaske on Monday, October 30, 8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. at Dowling Catholic High School. Appointments are recommended. Sign up to schedule an appointment to donate blood [here](#).

Ava was a sweet, gentle and caring girl. She could always be found spending time with her family and friends. She was a graduate of STCS and DCHS(2021). In November 2021, while attending Iowa State, she was diagnosed with Small Cell Carcinoma of the Ovary. She had to receive blood and platelets many times during her intensive treatment, oftentimes having to wait long periods while blood could be located for her. She was O negative and could only receive O negative blood. Sometimes blood would have to come from another hospital and a few times a different city. Ava planned to hold a blood drive when she recovered to pass forward the gift of blood that had been given to her. Ava passed on September 11, 2022, and we honor her memory through this Blood Drive.

Dowling Catholic High School Fall Play

Support our STCS alumni in the DCHS Fall Play! The DCHS Performing Arts Department presents *Puffs, or Seven Increasingly Eventful Years at a Certain School of Magic and Magic* on Thursday, October 26 at 7:30 p.m., Friday, October 27 at 7:30 p.m., and Saturday, October 28 at 2 & 7:30 p.m. in the DCHS auditorium. Tickets are \$7 and must be purchased [online](#).

St. Michael's Fall Retreat - 7 Virtues Focus

Open to all Catholic boys in the Diocese grades 3-8 - Fun activities, games and talks!

Where: St. Augustin School and School Chapel

When: Saturday, November 4, 8 a.m. - 6 p.m. (Ending with 5 p.m. vigil Mass Let by high school boys and local priests)

Cost: \$50 day retreat (scholarships available)

Register by Monday, October 30, 2023. Registration is limited to 35 boys. Contact km pierick@gmail.com or 515-778-6087 with questions.



DOWLING CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Open House

Sunday, November 5 from 11 am - 2 pm

Come see why Dowling Catholic is right for you!

- Student-led tours
- Meet Dowling Catholic faculty, staff & coaches
- Student performances
- Learn about our tuition assistance programs

1400 Buffalo Rd. | West Des Moines, IA | 515.222.0946 | www.dowlingcatholic.org/admissions

Dowling Catholic High School Open House

Parents & students of all ages are invited to attend Dowling Catholic's Annual Open House on Sunday, November 5, 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. The day includes student-led tours, interactive activities, the opportunity to meet faculty, coaches, staff and much more! Our tuition assistance representatives will also be available to answer your questions. Please visit our website to learn more:

<https://www.dowlingcatholic.org/admissions>.



6TH - 8TH CHEER CAMP

November 12, 2023
1:30pm - 5:30pm

Dowling Catholic High School

Registration for the 6th - 8th cheer camp is open. The cheer is camp is FREE! Click here to [register](#).

St. Theresa Catholic School
515-277-0178 stcs@stsdsm.com