



December 21, 2023 News & Updates

Upcoming Important Dates

12/22/23 Early Dismissal, 12 p.m.
Out of Uniform Day-Pick your favorite school appropriate clothes to wear to school (no pajamas)

12/23/23 - 1/3/24 Christmas Break

1/4/24 Thursday-Classes resume (note correct date)

The staff at STCS wishes your family a blessed Christmas and a new year filled with good health and happiness! Enjoy the break and we will see you Thursday January 4, 2024!



Christmas Sing-a-long

Parents may join our annual Christmas sing-a-long Friday December 22 at 11 a.m. in the gym. Please enter through the south gym doors. Afterwards students will be dismissed to their classrooms to finish the day, and parents will go to the car line.



Time for Winter Coats

Now that the weather is getting colder, students must wear coats outside to recess, so please send their coats to school every day.



Gala Gift Cards

While you are giving and receiving gifts this holiday season, would you consider donating gift cards to the 2024 Gala? Any gift cards, any type or amount, can be taken to the office. Label envelope: Gala Gift Card. We appreciate your donations!

Click [here](#) to read more about a health notification from the County of Polk Health Department.

Des Moines Regional Catholic Schools December Update

Click on a link below to read the letter from Dr. Dan Ryan updating families on the latest with Des Moines Regional Catholic Schools.

[English](#)

[Spanish](#)



Dear Diocese of Des Moines Catholic School Families,

This time of year is busy yet beautiful as we celebrate God's gift to us, His son, Jesus. It is a gift of love, one we are called to bring into the world.

The love you show and share with your family, friends, and one another is the same love Jesus shares with us. Thank you for your continued support of our Catholic schools, where we are blessed to share the message of Jesus each day: its wonder, joy, and hope.

When we seek models of encouragement, especially in times of trial, we need look no further than the Holy Family. Mary and Joseph traveled a long and dangerous road to keep Jesus safe. They experienced exhaustion, yet they remained strong in faith and trusted God's plan for them.

As we celebrate this sacred season of Christmas, may we imitate Mary and Joseph and celebrate the majesty and wonder of Christmas. This Christmas, may we entrust our challenges, crosses, and lives to His endless love and divine mercy. In Him, we will find the strength and grace we need.

In this Christmas season, God invites us, through the words of St. Paul, to "let the peace of Christ control your hearts." May we be instruments of His peace and compassion in a world that desperately needs the witness of our faith and unity. Let us encourage and support one another in faith with a renewed commitment, striving daily to imitate Christ.

May Our Lord and Savior bless you and your family with the peace that only He can give. May this precious gift be yours throughout the Christmas season and always.

Wishing you and your families a blessed Christmas and a grace-filled 2024 rich in health and happiness!

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Donna Bishop".

Donna Bishop, ED.S
Superintendent of Schools

Bishop's Celebration of Catholic Schools - Nomination Form

It's time to nominate an administrator, educator, and/or volunteer to receive special recognition during the Bishop's Celebration of Catholic Education on Saturday, August 24, 2024. Nominations are due January 22, 2024 and the winners will be announced during Catholic Schools Week, January 29-February 2. [Click here for the nomination form.](#)

JOIN OUR TEAM

BECOME A SUBSTITUTE TEACHER FOR THE DIOCESE OF DES MOINES CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

MULTIPLE PATHWAYS TO CHOOSE FROM	SUBSTITUTE TEACHING ALTERNATIVE	PARABOLIC CERTIFICATION
SUBSTITUTE TEACHING LICENSE	TEACHERS CAN EARN UP TO \$10,000 PER YEAR	TEACHERS CAN EARN UP TO \$10,000 PER YEAR
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CATHOLIC SCHOOLS
DIOCESE OF DES MOINES

Substitute Teaching

Would you like to earn some extra money while helping our great school? Read through the [attached flier](#) to learn more about becoming a substitute teacher and helping our school.

8th Grade Parents - [DCHS Placement Test Information](#)

3 FEBRUARY, 2024 - 6:30 - 8:30 PM

DADDY DAUGHTER ERA



ST. THERESA

DADDY DAUGHTER DANCE

ST. THERESA PARISH HALL

\$20 per adult and \$10 per child

Games and snacks provided



You're invited to an

all-star

MOTHER & SON NIGHT

On February 3rd at 6:30 - 8:30pm

St. Theresa School Gym

\$20 for adult/\$10 per child
Games and snacks provided



Parish News

Christmas Desserts Needed

Our Knights of Columbus help St. Joseph Parish prepare and deliver Christmas meals for shut-ins. They need pies, cakes and bars for dessert to add to the traditional turkey dinners they serve. Desserts can be dropped off at the St. Theresa west meeting room across from the kitchen, Saturday, December 23, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Call Tim Dempsey at 515-306-4972 with any questions.



St. Theresa Catholic Mass Schedule

Week 4 Advent

Saturday, 12/23/23, 4:30 p.m.
Sunday, 12/24/23, 8:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

Christmas Eve Mass

Sunday, 12/24/23, 4:30 p.m. & 11 p.m.

Christmas Day Mass

Monday, 12/25/23, 9:30 a.m.

HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION CHRISTMAS RUNDOWN	
DECEMBER 24 EVERY SUNDAY IS A HOLY DAY	DECEMBER 25 THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD
CHOOSE ONE <input type="checkbox"/> SATURDAY VIGIL MASS <input type="checkbox"/> SUNDAY MASS <input type="checkbox"/> CHRISTMAS EVE VIGIL	<i>a different</i> CHOOSE ONE <input type="checkbox"/> CHRISTMAS EVE VIGIL <input type="checkbox"/> MIDNIGHT MASS <input type="checkbox"/> CHRISTMAS DAY MASS

Community News

A promotional poster for 'Light It Up Basketball Clinics'. The background is dark with a photo of a basketball court on the left. The title 'LIGHT IT UP BASKETBALL CLINICS' is in large, white, stylized letters. Below the title, it lists three clinic options: DEC 27 in Indianola, DEC 28 in Des Moines, and DEC 30 in West Des Moines. It also specifies times for girls (1:00-3:00 PM) and boys (3:30-5:30 PM) sessions, and that the clinics are for 5th-8th grade students. The cost is listed as \$25 per attendee. A logo for 'LIGHT IT UP' with a basketball is in the bottom left.

LIGHT IT UP BASKETBALL CLINICS

3 CLINIC OPTIONS

DEC 27
INDIANOLA

DEC 28
DES MOINES

DEC 30
WEST DES MOINES

TIMES

1:00-3:00PM
GIRLS SESSION

3:30-5:30PM
BOYS SESSION

AGES

5TH - 8TH GRADE

COST

\$25
PER ATTENDEE

DCHS Middle School Winter Weight Lifting (Current 7th & 8th Graders)

Dowling Catholic High School will again offer our weight training readiness program this winter. Our readiness program is designed to teach safety, spotting and appropriate lifting technique. We move slowly through the program in order to emphasize technique and safety. It is very important that future Dowling Catholic athletes learn our way of teaching and techniques. All students are required to graduate from our readiness program before they are allowed to participate in our regular training program that many of our high school athletes participate in.

Registration Link: <https://www.gobound.com/ia/schools/dowling/camps>

Dates: Monday + Thursdays from January 8th to March 7th (Note - there will be lifting even on no school days)

Times: (Please note that flexibility is offered with what session you attend if you have scheduling conflicts)

6:15 - 7:00 p.m. - 7th and 8th Grade Girls

7:00 - 7:45 p.m. - 7th Grade Boys

7:45 to 8:45 p.m. 8th grade boys

Location: Dowling Catholic High School Weight Room (enter through the south gym lobby)

Cost: \$80

Questions: Contact Adam Jack - ajack@dowlingcatholic.org

K - 5 CHEER & DANCE CLINIC

Join Dowling Catholic Cheer & Dance for our Winter K-5th Cheer & Dance Clinic! Learn the fundamentals of cheerleading and dance, sideline cheers, a dance routine, and basic stunting. Participants will perform at halftime of the Dowling Catholic Girls Basketball game!

Clinic participants will wear t-shirt provided when they arrive, black shorts or pants, white socks, and tennis shoes. Please bring a water bottle!

📅 Friday, January 19th @ 4pm

📍 Dowling Cafeteria

💰 \$50 - includes t-shirt & pizza!

📧 Email dchscheercoaches@gmail.com or dowlingcatholicdanceteam@gmail.com with questions

REGISTER BY JANUARY 3, 2024



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