



ST. THERESA CATHOLIC

FAITH • SERVICE • COMMUNITY • EDUCATION

January 18, 2024 News & Updates

Upcoming Important Dates

1/19/24 8:30 a.m. School Mass - Pane

1/24/24 Next Smith Pro Uniform Order
Deadline

1/25/24 Spirit Day

1/26/24 8:30 a.m. School Mass -
Castellano

1/28/2024 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Catholic Schools Week Pancake Breakfast
in gym

1/29/24 Catholic Schools Week

1/31/24 12 p.m., Early Dismissal

2/3/24 Daddy/Daughter Era Dance/All
Star Mother & Son Night

**GLOWIN'
TO THE
GALA**

**saturday
April 13, 2024**

**STCS
Annual Gala and Auction**

The **STCS Annual Gala and Auction** will raise funds to improve safety and security around the school and church campus. To accomplish our safety goals, we have set a goal of \$75,000.

- REMODEL FRONT SCHOOL ENTRANCE VESTIBULE FOR HIGHER SECURITY
- UPGRADING INTERIOR DOORS
- UPGRADING INTERIOR DOOR LOCKS

If you would like to donate, checks can be mailed to 5819 Carpenter Ave. Des Moines IA 50311
For questions email stcsfundraising@stsdsm.com

THANK YOU to all those who helped raise over \$65,000 for the 2023 Tiki Time Gala. Planning is underway to get us Glowin' to the Gala in April!

The STCS Annual Gala and Auction will raise funds to improve safety and security around the school and church campus. To accomplish our safety goals, we have set a goal of \$75,000.

- Remodel front school entrance vestibule for higher security.

- Upgrading interior doors

- Upgrading interior door locks

More information to come about this fun event!

Questions may be directed to
stcsfundraising@stsdsm.com

CELEBRATE CATHOLIC
SCHOOLS WEEK



January 28 - February 3, 2024

Catholic Schools Week

We are gearing up for Catholic Schools week, January 28-February 3, 2024. Join us for Mass on January 28, at 8:30 a.m. or 10:30 a.m. Our students will be serving various ministries during these two Masses. Following Mass head over to the gym to enjoy a pancake breakfast, 9:30-11:30 a.m. Our school will be open for tours. Ask a friend or family to join you and show off our amazing school!

Please consider signing up to help with one of the Masses as we kick off Catholic Schools Week.

[8:30 a.m. Mass Ministries Jan 28](#)

[10:30 a.m. Mass Ministries for 1/28](#)



First Eucharist Parent Meeting

Dear parents of First Eucharist children,

Happy New Year! May this year be filled with countless blessings for your family as you learn in earnest more about our Lord in the Holy Eucharist.

Please join me in the parish hall on Wednesday, January 24th from 6:30-7:30 p.m. as we outline our program of study, learning center information, Mass dates & times and how to sign up.

More importantly, we gather to learn how to grow in our own faith in order to better support our children prepare for one of the greatest moments of their lives! We gather, too, to support one another as we approach the Sacrament of the Eucharist as a parish community.

Babysitting is available. Please email your RSVP by Monday, Jan 22 so we're sure to have enough babysitters.

As always, contact me or Mrs. Duff (lduff@stsdsm.com) with any questions you may have. We are here to support you as you lead your child to the very heart of their Savior.

God bless you with love & peace,
Mrs. Jane Ann Becicka, Children's Faith Formation Coordinator
jbecicka@stsdsm.com
(515)279-4654 x304

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

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!

MAKING AN APPLICATION TO JOIN OUR TEAM	SUBSTITUTE TEACHING SCHEDULE	PARADOXICAL CERTIFICATION
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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.

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



Middle School Throws Camp 2024

Date: March 23rd

Time: Session 1 (9-11:30), Session 2 (12-2:30), Session 3 (3-5:30) Only if there is enough interest

Location: St. Francis Track

Limit: 25 athletes per session, will allow me to make 5 groups of 5 and be able to help each athlete more. We had about 48 kids last year over the 2 days, and the biggest session was roughly 26 kids.

Questions? Contact Logan Greiner - greinerlj@yahoo.com

Sign up [HERE](#)



Summer Swimming Lessons with Riptide

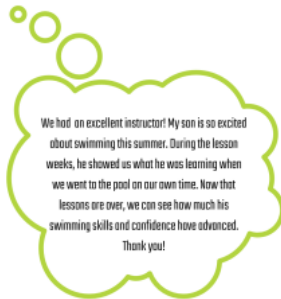
Registration begins March 1, 2024
for group and private lessons.

Session Dates

Session I Monday, June 3 to Thursday, June 13

Session II Monday, June 17 to Thursday, June 27

Session III Monday, July 8 to Thursday, July 18



We had an excellent instructor! My son is so excited about swimming this summer. During the lesson weeks, he showed us what he was learning when we went to the pool on our own time. Now that lessons are over, we can see how much his swimming skills and confidence have advanced. Thank you!



The Riptide Group Swimming Lessons are designed to give families an affordable way to teach kids water safety and basic swimming lessons. All lessons are taught with a method of cooperative learning, not fear or force. We will work to build skills and confidence in the water in an environment where swimmers feel safe and welcome. Swimmers must be 4 by their lesson end date.

Large groups and daycare providers are invited to contact us about opportunities for lessons. We can accommodate up to 30 youth in one time slot. Once individual registration opens, we may not be able to accommodate large groups.



Thank you for ensuring my kids safety while teaching them how to be safe in the water and have fun. I believe what is taught is foundational for the love of swimming as they age. Your program is awesome!

For more information

Website: www.dowlingcatholicriptide.org

Email: dchsyouthswimming@gmail.com

Call: 515-650-3534

"This is not a school or sponsored publication, nor is it in any way endorsed or sponsored by any school district. This publication is being provided only to inform you of other available community activities and opportunities."

Summer Swimming Lessons

Click [here](#) to read more about the swim lessons offered at Dowling Catholic High School this summer.



Spring Soccer Registration

Dowling Soccer Club's spring program is right around the corner, and we would love to have you be a part of our club! Registration for the upcoming spring season is open now through February 20.

Register today at: www.dowlingsoccerclub.org

About Dowling Soccer Club

Dowling Soccer Club is a family-oriented soccer club that provides an opportunity to play organized soccer at recreational levels for players ages 5-14 years old. We offer challenging programs that place the focus on the development of the whole player within a team environment. The Club provides age-appropriate programs that focus on sportsmanship, leadership, competition, and the love of the game to enrich each player's life.

Participation in the Dowling Soccer Club is open to all youth. Present or future attendance at Dowling Catholic High School is not a requirement to play for the Dowling Soccer Club.

Recreational Soccer

Rec soccer is open to all players ages 8-14 and offers players, families, and volunteer coaches an enjoyable soccer experience focused on developing each player and fostering a love of the game. The Spring season will run from April through the first weekend in June. Matches are scheduled on Saturdays and Sunday afternoons with home matches being held at Dowling Catholic High School.

Cost: \$150

Sign-up Deadline: February 15

Register today at: www.dowlingsoccerclub.org

Mini Maroons & new Mighty Maroons Soccer

Mini Maroons and Mighty Maroons are instructional programs that introduces **boys and girls ages 4-7** to the basic skills of soccer taught by the Women's Varsity Coach at Dowling Catholic High School JP Pearson. Mini Maroons are for children ages 4-5 and Mighty Maroons are for 6-7-year-olds looking to have fun and compete in short-sided games. Our program is held from **10:00-11:00 am on Saturday** mornings at Dowling Catholic High School. There will be a total of **6 sessions held April 20 through May 25**. Each week, players participate in 30 minutes of age-appropriate instructions followed by 30 minutes of small-sided scrimmaging.

Mini Maroons: \$65

Mighty Maroons: \$75

Deadline: February 29

Registration for these programs is now open and available at: www.dowlingsoccerclub.org

Questions? Please contact Dowling Soccer Club at DowlingSoccerClub0@gmail.com

Parish News



Join us on Fat Tuesday, February 13, 2024, at 5:30 p.m., for our first Mardi Gras celebration.

We hope you can join us for this parish community event to bring parishioners together to celebrate Mardi Gras and eat good food. We will have some fun activities to kick off Lent too.

The Mardi Gras celebration will be held in the parish hall and the cost is free!



This week the St. Theresa Sister Parish in TOGO committee accepted monetary donations from Girl Scouts Troop 363 under the leadership of Angela Thraillkill and from the SVdP High school students with Andrew Gross as their mentor. The TOGO connection started 18 years ago providing educational scholarships to the orphaned, disabled, poor children in the village of NYASSIVE. Our numbers of scholarships steadily grow and we are really grateful to St. Theresa Catholic for their generous steady monetary support.

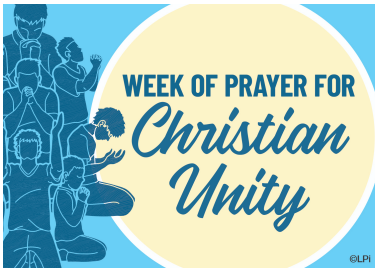
Fundraising efforts included selling Girl Scout cookies, mass collections, classroom coin days, candy grams and a parish wide pancake breakfast. Together they collected over \$4,000 (Girls Scouts, \$1100; School along with SdVP high school leaders, \$3150) to fund additional teachers in our village in Africa. This amount will cover annual salaries for 3.8 teachers.



Mrs. Watznauer and Ms. Custer joined along with us at our appreciation dinner. Special shoutouts to ALL the persons involved in creating a program of deep gratitude to these shining star kids and their leaders. The whiz kid winner, Isaiah Seymour, won \$25 to Casey's for gas. Fellowship followed with Marcos pizza, who generously gave us 50% discount and Amy Dempsey who kindly donated gourmet cupcakes. TOGO team members provided additional menu items. We are so thankful to these students

and are truly blessed they have a bright and shining light inside them shown by compassion to those who cry out for what we take for granted. Monetary donations are accepted all year long. You can use the parish website or send to John Mc Michael. Stay tuned for more from us. We are thankful beyond measure.

-TOGO 2024.



Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

Please be part of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Service on Thursday, January 25 at 6:30 p.m. at Windsor Heights Lutheran Church, 1244 66th St. Three other neighboring congregations are involved: Windsor Presbyterian Church, Windsor United Methodist Church and St. Theresa Catholic Church. Fr. Raphael will deliver a homily on the parable of the Good Samaritan reading. Reception follows the prayer service in WHLC Parish Hall. Since 1968, Christians around the world have set

aside a week of prayer for Christian unity. Mark your calendar to join with our neighbors at this prayer service.

O Come Let us Adore Him

Make a SPIRITUAL RESOLUTION this year! Come and spend time with Emmanuel who has been born. Each week Holy Hour is on Tuesday night from 7-8 p.m.

Lunch & Learn

How do you feel about bees? Father Tim Fitzgerald will be our speaker at the February 1st Lunch and Learn. He will be bringing some equipment to show, some honey to sample, some bottles for purchase, and some stories. Mark your calendar to join us February 1, at 10 a.m. and bring a potluck dish.

Parish Wide Family Service Project Night

Making Tie Blankets, Knitting & Card Making - Wednesday, January 31, 6:30 - 8 p.m. School Gym. Join us in making tie blankets, knitting, and making cards for various organizations. We are asking families to bring at least one piece of fleece three yards in length to help with this project. We also encourage people to bring scissors for this project. We are also looking for adults who would like to help out that evening as well. Please contact Megs, mhowes@stsdsm.com, with any questions, to volunteer or to attend.

Our World Needs Prayer - Join Fellow Iowans to Pray A Monthly Rosary. Iowa State Capitol - West Side Steps. Third Sunday of Every Month in 2024 at 1:30 p.m. Join us this Sunday, January 21.

Palms

Believe it or not, it's time to bring in your old palms. Lent begins on February 14 with the palm burnings sometime in late January. If you have palms to burn, bring them to the office or to church. Sacks will be available for you to place them.

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