



ST. THERESA CATHOLIC

FAITH • SERVICE • COMMUNITY • EDUCATION

March 6, 2025 News & Updates

St. Theresa Catholic School 515-277-0178

Upcoming Important Dates

3/8/25 Dodgeball Tournament

3/14/25 No school, Spring Break

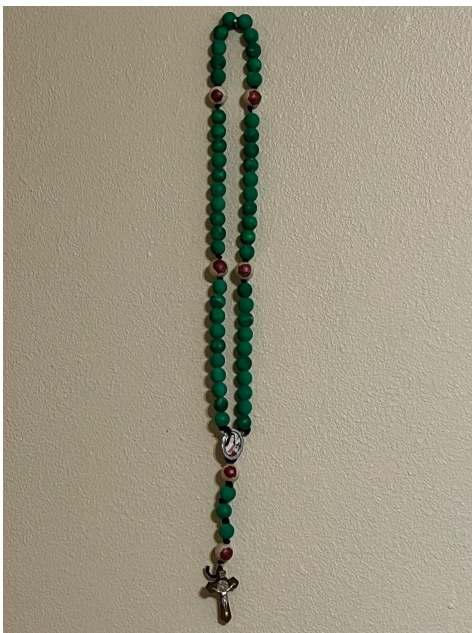
3/24/25 Classes resume

4/18/25 2:30 p.m. dismissal, Good Friday

4/21/25 No School, Easter Monday

4/26/25 St. Theresa Gala 5:30 p.m.

[2024-2025 School Calendar](#)



Dear Parents and Students,

I wanted to let you know I am home and recovering from my surgery. I must share that it was so heart warming to gather with students and staff last Tuesday, as they presented me with a Rosary made by a parent with students and we said the Rosary together in the gym. I have enjoyed listening to the recording as I recover. I am also enjoying the sweet get well cards students have created, which I read each day. Thank you for your prayers and ongoing prayers. Thank you for your support and reaching out. Please know that I am praying for our students, staff and families during this time. I truly miss being at school. I look forward to returning in April to finish the year strong.

In prayer and Thanksgiving,
Gretchen Watznauer

Lenten Meal - starts this Friday

The Knights of Columbus will be hosting a dinner each Friday evening during Lent in the school gym, 5:30 -7 p.m. The meal includes: fried fish, baked fish, cheese pizza, french fries, coleslaw, macaroni & cheese, desserts, and drink. Free will donations will be accepted.

Dodgeball Tournament

Join us for St. Theresa's Annual Dodgeball Tournament this Saturday, March 8th, 6-9 p.m. in the school gym! Concessions will be available - cash and venmo accepted. Enter through the south school door, kindergarten door entrance of the school.

Uniform Ordering

This is the last chance to order any new uniform items from Smith Pro for this school year. We have extended the deadline to Sunday, March 9th. Orders will resume in July for next school year. Click [here](#) to order. If you have questions contact Emily Melcher, emelcher1@stdsm.com.



St. Theresa of the Child Jesus
Invites you to a

Parish Mission

**With
Steve Angrisano**

**MARCH
9 & 10
6 PM**

ST. THERESA OF
THE CHILD JESUS
CHURCH



The image is a promotional flyer for a parish mission. It features a dark teal background. On the left, there is a circular logo with a green border containing the text 'CALLED TO WITNESS' and 'SENT FORTH TO SERVE'. In the center of the logo is a large '75' with 'YEARS' written below it, and a green lily flower at the bottom. To the right of the logo, the text reads 'St. Theresa of the Child Jesus Invites you to a Parish Mission With Steve Angrisano'. Below this, the dates and time are listed: 'MARCH 9 & 10 6 PM'. At the bottom left, the church name 'ST. THERESA OF THE CHILD JESUS CHURCH' is written. On the bottom right, there is a photograph of Steve Angrisano, a man with glasses wearing a blue shirt and a dark jacket, smiling and playing an acoustic guitar.

Fixing Souls Not Just Buildings - Send Mr. Tony to Rome

Out of Uniform Day on Thursday March 13th to raise funds to send Mr. Tony on a pilgrimage to Rome! Donate here, <https://www.givesendgo.com/GEZG6> or send monetary donations to school with your child on March 13th.

Tony Tedesco came to St. Theresa Catholic School and Parish as the head of maintenance, but his impact has gone far beyond the walls of his job. He has truly been an answer to our prayers, a blessing to our community. God's plan was clear when He led Tony back to St. Theresa — a place that shaped him, as Tony is a proud alumnus of our school. If you had told him as a student that he would one day return to serve here, he would have likely laughed. But God's plans often surprise us in the most beautiful ways.

When God called Tony to work at our school, He gave him a vision — a vision to build a chapel, a sacred space for our students to connect with Him. In less than a year, that dream became a reality. Tony didn't just fulfill a task; he brought a place of peace and prayer into existence. Today, our chapel stands as a testament to his faith, dedication, and love for this community. Students attend class there, spend time in adoration, and experience grade-level Masses that are held within those walls. By witness, it is some of the best moments of our student's day. Tony has given us something lasting, something to help our students and staff build their relationship with God day in and day out.

But Tony's contributions don't stop there. His presence in our school is felt in every hallway, playground, and classroom. He's the one playing with the little ones on the playground, cracking jokes with the older students in the cafeteria (even starting the food fights), and walking alongside those who need a little extra time and guidance. Tony has built meaningful relationships with our students, teaching them not just about their faith but about kindness, work ethic, and the importance of community. Every year, he takes the time to teach our 5th graders about the scapular, encouraging them to wear it as a reminder of Mary's love and care for them.

Many of you have also witnessed the new stained glass tabernacle at the church. The process was also something Tony was a part of, but he didn't just work on the project, but poured his soul into doing it for St. Theresa and Jesus. His love for Jesus runs so deep and he is teaching so many others in his path about Our Savior.

Now, it's our turn to give back to Tony. He has always been there for us, and now we have an opportunity to support him. Tony dreams of taking a pilgrimage with members of St. Theresa and Fr. Mike. Unfortunately, due to unexpected home repairs, Tony has had to use the funds he saved for his journey to the Vatican. We want to show him how much his hard work and dedication mean to us. Let's come together to help make his pilgrimage dream a reality, just as he has made so many of ours come true.

Let's show him how powerful the prayers and the "little way" of St. Theresa can make a big impact.

Altar Server Training

Our next altar server training is March 25, 5-6:30 p.m. in the church. Contact Josh Tyrrell, tyrrell.w.j@gmail.com, with questions.

State testing season is upon us!

All students in grades 3-8 will be taking the Iowa Statewide Assessment of Student Progress (ISASP) for Reading, Math, and Language/Writing the week of March 31st. Students in grades 5 and 8 will also take the Science ISASP during that same week.

As much as possible, please have your student attend during testing time (approximately 8:30 - 10:30 AM).

Per the state testing policies, "Headphones or earbuds must be wired. Bluetooth headphones or earbuds are not allowed." Please make sure your child has headphones that can plug into the school-issued Chromebooks via an audio jack or USB.

Your child's individual (homeroom) teacher may reach out with details specific to his/her classroom.

Track

Track registration is open. Click [here](#) for more information and to register.

Sports/Clinics

Check out our website under news/events for a listing of camps and clinics available through Dowling Catholic High School or click [here](#). There are several spring camps as well as information regarding swim team, summer swim lessons and track and field.

Love Your Catholic School? Help Spread the Word!

The Catholic Schools Office is asking parents to share their experiences in our Catholic schools. We want to hear your stories, what you like, and how your school has made a difference in your child's life. Please take a few minutes to complete our [Parent Engagement Survey](#) at dmdiocese.org/schools/parent-survey. It can be completed anonymously, but please consider becoming a parent advocate and help us spread the word about our great Catholic schools

CTO

Time to apply for CTO tuition grants! In the Diocese of Des Moines, Catholic Tuition Organization (CTO) tuition grants are applied first to tuition expenses. The primary qualification for families to receive tuition assistance is based on meeting income guidelines. Visit CTOIowa.org for more details and to see the income guidelines for the 25-26 school year. Application deadline is April 15, 2025. Apply at www.fairapp.com



Tuition Assistance Available!

The first qualification for families to receive tuition assistance is income. Compare your income with the "maximum income" for your family size as shown in the chart below. If your household income is LESS THAN the amount shown, you meet the 2025 financial eligibility requirement for the **Catholic Tuition Organization (CTO)** or funds available through the **Diocesan Tuition Assistance (DTA)** established with the Ignite Capital Campaign.

*Family Size	**CTO MAXIMUM Income	**DTA MAXIMUM Income
2	\$ 84,600	\$ 84,601 - \$105,750
3	\$106,600	\$106,601 - \$133,250
4	\$128,600	\$128,601 - \$160,750
5	\$150,600	\$150,601 - \$188,250
6	\$172,600	\$172,601 - \$215,750
7	\$194,600	\$194,601 - \$243,250
8	\$216,600	\$216,601 - \$270,750
	Add \$22,000 for each additional dependent	Add \$27,500 for each additional dependent

* Family size includes parent(s)/guardian(s) and total number of dependents plus others living in household
 ** Families/households are eligible for tuition assistance if their total income is at or below the above listed maximum income levels as reported on Line 9 of federal income tax form

Applications will be accepted beginning February 1, 2025 for all Catholic schools in the Diocese of Des Moines. Apply online at www.fairapp.com.
 For more information, contact CTO at 515-237-5010.

Application deadline
 April 15th, 2025

www.fairapp.com
 School code: 450
 Password: 450ddm

TUITION ASSISTANCE 25-26



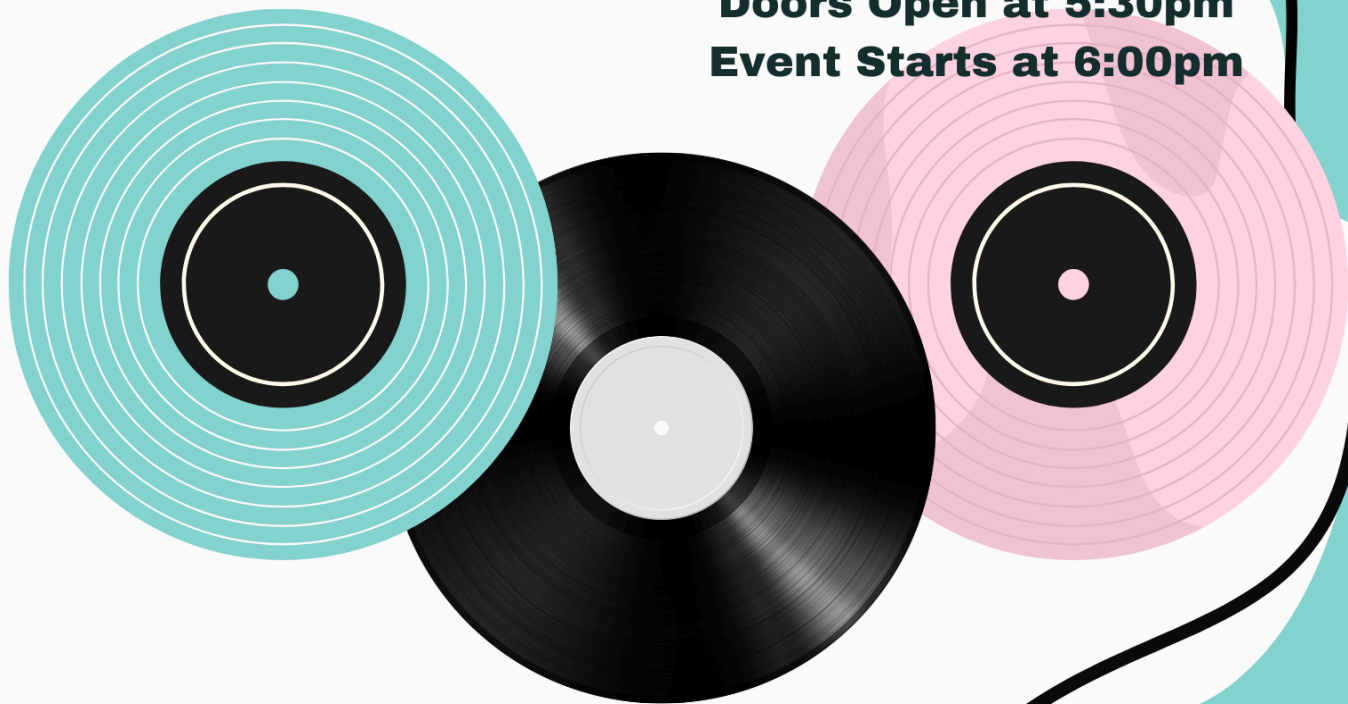
The bottom line? *It's for the KIDS...*
and their futures!



St. Theresa's Jukebox Jamboree

Rock Around the Clock: A 1950s Party to Remember!

**Doors Open at 5:30pm
Event Starts at 6:00pm**



Step back in time to the fabulous 1950s for a fun-filled evening of music, dancing, and nostalgia! Our school fundraiser will transport you to the era of poodle skirts, leather jackets, and jukebox hits. Enjoy classic diner-style treats, a sock hop dance floor, and exciting raffles, all while supporting a great cause. Whether you're a greaser, a bobby soxer, or just a fan of '50s culture, this event promises to be a blast for all ages. So, grab your shades, twist and shout, and help us raise funds for St. Theresa's programs and projects. It's going to be a night of fun, laughter, and giving back—50s style!

Save the Date!

**April 26
2025**



Join us for



GRANDPARENTS DAY

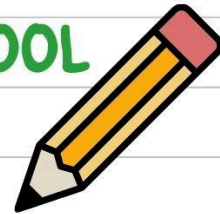


at

ST. THERESA CATHOLIC SCHOOL

FRIDAY, APRIL 25TH

8:30 - 11:30



Grandparents (or Honorary Grandparents!)
are invited to attend mass at 8:30 and then
spend the morning in the classroom.



Tickets for raffle baskets
will be available for purchase
& be sure to grab a photo at
the free photobooth!



5810 Carpenter Ave,
Des Moines, IA 50311

