



St. Theresa of the Child Jesus

1230 Merle Hay Road, Des Moines, Iowa, 50311

515-279-4654

www.sainttheresaiowa.org

<https://www.facebook.com/StTheresaCatholicDesMoines>



Communion Service:

Monday 6:30 a.m.

Weekly Mass:

Tuesday 6:30 a.m.

Wednesday 6:30 a.m.,
5:45 p.m.

Thursday 6:30 a.m.

Friday 6:30 a.m., 8:30 a.m.

Weekend Mass:

Saturday 4:30 p.m.

Sunday 8:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m.,
4:30 p.m.

Holy Hour:

Tuesday 7-8 p.m.

**Sacrament of
Reconciliation:**

Saturday, 8:30 - 9:30 a.m.

First Friday of Every Month:

Adoration – 7 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Divine Mercy Chaplet – 3 p.m.

Confession – 3:30 p.m.

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October 6, 2024

Welcome to St. Theresa of the Child Jesus

We are glad to have you worship with us! If you would like to register, please call the parish secretary at 515-279-4654. You may also find our registration form online at: sainttheresaiowa.org. Click on 'join', then click on 'new member registration form'. You may drop it in the collection basket or stop by the parish office.

Caring for the Sick or Confined - Please contact the Parish Office to receive Holy Communion, Anointing of the Sick or simply a visit at the place of care. We depend on family and parishioners to inform us when someone is hospitalized or homebound.

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 - notify the church office at least six months prior to the desired wedding date. With previous marriage, notify the church at least one year in advance.

Bulletin and Email Requests - Bulletin, weekly email, and website submissions should be sent to stsmmedia@stsdsm.com, by Thursday the week prior you want your information published.

ST. THERESA OF THE CHILD JESUS - 515-279-4654, Office Hours: Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Pastor - Fr. Raphael Assamah, rassamah@stsdsm.com, 515-279-4654 x301

Associate Pastor - Fr. Mike Mahoney mmahoney@stsdsm.com, 515-279-4654 x302

Weekend Assistant Pastor - Rev. Robert Chamberlain, bobbikecham@gmail.com

Pastoral Associate - Deacon David Schmidt dschmidt@stsdsm.com, 515-279-4654 x308

Parish Business Manager - Kenneth Seymour kseymour@stsdsm.com, 515-279-4654 x303

Parish Accountant - John McMichael, jmcmichael@stsdsm.com, 515-279-4654 x305

Parish Secretary - Tatia Eischeid, teischeid@stsdsm.com, 515-279-4654 x300

Communications Coordinator - Emily Melcher emelcher1@stsdsm.com

Director of Evangelization & Faith Formation - Jane Ann Becicka jbecicka@stsdsm.com, 515-279-4654 x304

OCIA Director/Adult Faith Formation - Barb Woods bwoods@stsdsm.com, 515-210-6649

Music Coordinator - Jill Dimon, jdimon@stsdsm.com

Facilities & Maintenance - Tony Tedesco, atedesco@stsdsm.com, 515-279-4654 x118

Food Pantry - Anita Holub, stsdsmfoodpantry@gmail.com Food Pantry Hours: M-W, 10 a.m. - 1:45 p.m.

ST. THERESA CATHOLIC SCHOOL - 515-277-0178, Fax 515-255-2415

Principal - Gretchen Watznauer, gwatznauer@stsdsm.com, 515-277-0178 x207

Child Care - Maria Calhoun, mcalhoun@stsdsm.com, 515-277-3788 x401

PARISH COMMITTEES

Finance Council - Judy Kendzora, 515-276-4139, t.kendzora@mchsi.com

Pastoral Council - Christopher Sulu, 308-672-4504, pastoralcouncil@stsdsm.com

Peace & Justice - Kathy O'Neill, 515-865-1590, don.kathy.oneill@gmail.com

Fair Trade - Sandy Nauman, 515-689-5527

St. Theresa Altar & Rosary - Joan Ferguson, 515-321-4386, stsdsmSTARS@gmail.com

St. Theresa K of C Grand Knight - Tim Dempsey, 515-306-4972, timbod10@aol.com

St. Vincent de Paul - Amy Williams, 515-518-0206

TOGO Committee - Kay Boisen, 515-720-0923, Barb & Sergio Loch, 515-321-0723

Trustees - Anne Dols, 515-491-8924, ajdols@gmail.com; Paul Galloway, 515-371-2094, galloway.m.paul@gmail.com

Stewardship

Collection & Tithes

Fiscal year is July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025

August Budget Total : \$73,751

August Received: \$79,847

Budgeted (July 2024 - August 2024): \$151,318

Received (July 2024 - August 2024): \$157,537

Variance to Budget (July 2024 - August 2024): \$6,219

ADA - 2024 Annual Diocesan Appeal

Goal: \$139,826.00

Gifts/Pledges: \$138,896.81

Remaining on goal: \$929.19

of reg. families: 930+

No. of Donors: 248

IGNITE

Gifts/Pledges: \$872,964.61

Remaining on Pledges: \$186,936.98

No. of Donors: 268

St. Theresa Calendar

Information as of September 30, 2024

EMR - East Meeting Room,

WMR - West Meeting Room

PH - Parish Hall

Monday, October 7

6:30 a.m. Communion Service

9:30 a.m. Adult Faith Formation Study Groups - EMR

5:30 p.m. Sparking Personal Prayer - Emmaus House

6 p.m. Adult Faith Formation Study Groups - EMR

Tuesday, October 8

6:30 a.m. Mass

9 a.m. Adult Faith Formation Study Groups - Zoom

2 p.m. Grief Group - EMR

4 p.m. CISS Meal - School Kitchen

5:45 p.m. Pietra Fitness - PH

7 p.m. Holy Hour/Eucharistic Adoration - Church

Wednesday, October 9

6:30 a.m. Mass

7 a.m. Men's Group - EMR

7:15 a.m. Pietra Fitness - PH

4 p.m. CGS - School Room #114

5:45 p.m. Mass

6:15 p.m. CGS - School Room #114

6:30 p.m. Edge - School Gym

6:30 p.m. Confirmation - PH

6:30 p.m. K-5 Wednesday Faith Formation - School

*CGS - *Catechesis of the Good Shepherd*

Thursday, October 10

6:30 a.m. Mass

10:30 a.m. Mass of Anointing - Church

Friday, October 11

6:30 a.m. Mass

8:30 a.m. School Mass

1 p.m. Adult Faith Formation Study Groups - EMR

Saturday, October 12

8:30 a.m. Reconciliation

9 a.m. Baptism Class - EMR

4:30 p.m. Mass

Sunday, October 13

Fellowship with Friends following morning Masses - PH

8:30 a.m. Mass

9:30 a.m. OCIA - EMR, WMR

10:30 a.m. Mass

4:30 p.m. Mass



Mass Intentions

Tuesday, October 8

6:30 a.m. † Gloria Coverdell

Wednesday, October 9

6:30 a.m. † Dee Pagliai

5:45 p.m. † John & Marilyn Caffrey

Thursday, October 10

6:30 a.m. † Rosetta Pfaff † Ana De La Cruz

Friday, October 11

6:30 a.m. † Frank & Anna Healy

8:30 a.m. † Lawrence & Arlene Dentlinger

Saturday, October 12

4:30 p.m. † Mark Salazar † Bill, Jane & Sean Linthicum

Sunday, October 13

8:30 a.m. † Jody McCarthy

10:30 a.m. † Art & Joan Klein Family

4:30 p.m. † Pat Von Bank

If you would like to schedule a Mass Intention please call, 515-279-4654, ext. 300 or visit our parish secretary, Tatia. The suggested minimum offering for a Mass Intention is \$10.

Readings for the week of October 6, 2024

Sunday: Gn 2:18-24/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5, 6 (see 5)/Heb 2:9-11/Mk 10:2-16 or 10:2-12

Monday: Gal 1:6-12/Ps 111:1b-2, 7-8, 9 and 10c/Lk 10:25-37

Tuesday: Gal 1:13-24/Ps 139:1b-3, 13-14ab, 14c-15/Lk 10:38-42

Wednesday: Gal 2:1-2, 7-14/Ps 117:1bc, 2/Lk 11:1-4

Thursday: Gal 3:1-5/Lk 1:69-70, 71-72, 73-75/Lk 11:5-13

Friday: Gal 3:7-14/Ps 111:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6/Lk 11:15-26

Saturday: Gal 3:22-29/Ps 105:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Lk 11:27-28

Next Sunday: Wis 7:7-11/Ps 90:12-13, 14-15, 16-17 (14)/Heb 4:12-13/Mk 10:17-30 or 10:17-27

Observances for the week of October 6, 2024

Sunday: 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time; Respect Life

Monday: Our Lady of the Rosary

Wednesday: St. Denis, Bishop, and Companions, Martyrs; St. John Leonardi, Priest

Friday: St. John XXIII, Pope

Next Sunday: 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Father Raphael Assamah

Reflections for Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Theme: A Committed and Lasting Relationship

Dearly Beloved in Christ,

The readings for today set us in a wedding liturgy. Many of us might have heard these readings often. In a society where divorce is paramount, it is expedient to reflect on Jesus' answer to the Pharisees. The readings challenge our sense of commitment to one another. It meant a commitment that two people were making to one another to be faithful to each other in a perpetual union until death. It also reminds parents the responsibility teaching their children in their faith.

In today's Gospel, we see parents bringing their children to Jesus to bless them. Their desire is holy, their efforts commendable, and their example to be emulated.

Parents Must Bring Their Children to Christ

Parents must bring their children to Christ in their early days. The first duty of parents is to dedicate their children to God, as Hannah in the Old Testament did to Samuel, and to instruct them in their faith in Jesus. They need to teach them to pray, even if it is a simple prayer. Our investment of *time, money, and efforts* in our children in training them in the Christian faith shall serve as a measure against moral degeneration. King Solomon said, "Train children in the right way, and when old, they will not stray (Pro. 22:6)."

The Kingdom of God Belongs to Those Who are Childlike

When the disciples rebuked the parents who brought their children to Jesus to be blessed by Him, Jesus was indignant at the disciples. He loved children, and we find Him taking time off from His journey to Jerusalem to take them into His arms and bless them. This blessing shall remain with them for all eternity.

"The kingdom of God," said Jesus, "belongs to such as these children." Children are dependent on their parents for everything, and they totally trust them. They are not maliciously ambitious after prominence or fame or power or wealth or position. Their anger is short.

These characteristics of the children are necessary for any man or woman to enter the kingdom of God. Every person must come to God like a child. As a child depends and trusts upon parents, so we must depend totally on God. As a child who is humble and forgiving, we must banish pride and hatred from our hearts.

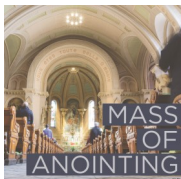
The lesson for us in all these readings is simply this: Emphasize qualities that promote faithfulness. We must honor husbands and wives for their commitment and dedication and congratulate family members for their contributions to the common good. People should be grateful for the unconditional generosity of their friends. No matter how many examples we see to the contrary, loyalty is still number one for Christians.

May Christ, who lovingly embraced the children and laid His hands on them and blessed them embrace, and bless each one of us. Shalom!

This and that

Rosary month: October is traditionally dedicated to praying the Rosary. The Holy Rosary has been described as the powerful weapon on hand and the Bible on beads. The best way to celebrate the Month of the Holy Rosary is, of course, to **pray the rosary** daily. *During October, we shall pray the Rosary on every Tuesday during Holy Hour.* There will be a pep talk on Mary during Holy Hour.

Parish News & Events



Mass of Anointing: Thursday, October 10, at 10:30 a.m. - The sacrament of anointing is open to all who have health problems due to illness or age or have an upcoming surgery. Friends and relatives are encouraged to attend. We will have a lunch in the parish hall following the Mass. We will make every effort to transport homebound parishioners to this special Mass. Contact Deacon David, dschmidt@stdsm.com, with questions.

Mass of Remembrance: Saturday, October 26, 10:30 a.m. - This special Mass remembers the members of our parish who have died in the past year. Please mark your calendar and prayerfully consider attending to support those who have lost loved ones recently.

Next weekend, October 12/13, we will have a 2nd collection for St. Theresa Building and Maintenance Fund.



New Youth Minister - It brings us great joy to announce that Mary Pane has accepted the position of part-time youth minister. She brings to the position a strong faith and dedicated commitment to youth demonstrated, not only through her teaching in a Catholic school, but also in her activities as an Ut Fidem leader at Dowling Catholic High School and her years spent on staff at Catholic Youth Camp. We are grateful for her "Yes" and look forward to many blessings through her leadership. Welcome aboard, Mary!



Remembering the Pope's visit to Iowa in 1979 - It's been 43 years since St. Pope John Paul II visited Living History Farms and celebrated Mass outdoors with more than 350,000 people. Iowa PBS has produced a new documentary called

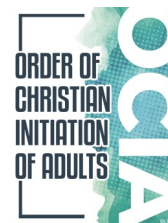
"Pope's Visit to Iowa" that will air October 7 at 8 p.m. on IPTV. St. Theresa's Evangelization and Faith Formation Ministry encourages parishioners to see the program then come to Fellowship with Friends on October 13 to share memories or learn more about that grace-filled visit.

St. Theresa History

In the early 1950's there was a Passionist Monastery at the corner of Merle Hay & Douglas. In 1958, the Passionist Order sold that property so the Merle Hay Mall could be built. The priests and brothers moved to 1100 63rd Street. Father Columban, Father Terrence (in the picture), and Brother Ted were three of the residents. Besides assisting here in the parish, people went to the monastery for confession and spiritual direction.



OCIA - Come and See - The OCIA Team is offering a time to ask questions about God, Catholic beliefs, and other basics of the faith. We invite parents with students in faith formation and adults who also want to learn more about the basics of the Catholic faith to join us. There is no commitment required, it's just an opportunity to learn more. Join us for either session: Sunday 9:30 -10:30 a.m. in the East Meeting Room or Wednesday 6:30-7:30 p.m. in Room 111 in the lower level of the school. These sessions will last through November. Come for some or all of them. Contact the Faith Formation Team in the parish office for more information.



Sparking Personal Prayer - Join us in discovering different ways to pray on Mondays at 5:30 p.m. at The Emmaus House, 3315 70th St., Urbandale (enter west door). We will focus on Centering Prayer and the Daily Reader for Contemplative Living by Fr. Thomas Keating. This will be completed within a half hour to get you home for dinner. This is a great way to start your week. If you have questions contact Andrew Gross, 515-480-3583 or Jim Egger, 515-491-0797. No registration required. Join us when you can!



Have you seen The Chosen? Season 4 is out and Season 5 is in the editing stages. The study groups on Monday 9:30-11:30 a.m. and 6-8 p.m. in the East Meeting Room as well as the ZOOM group on Tuesday 9-11 a.m. will be viewing and discussing Season 4 beginning October 14-15. Contact Barb Woods, bwoods@stsdsm.com or 515-210-6649, for more information.

Christmas Tea - Save the date and bring your daughters, granddaughters and friends to a Christmas tea on December 14 at 2 p.m.! More details to come, but get it on your calendar now!





ST. THERESA CATHOLIC

MUSIC IN THE PARK

◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ 2024 ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆



Opus Taylor

OCTOBER 20 4-6 PM FREE ENTRY

BRING CHAIRS, SNACKS, OR A PICNIC DINNER

COLBY PARK PAVILION - WINDSOR HEIGHTS

PARISHIONER, BILL MOGOLOV, IS IN A BAND CALLED OPUS TAYLOR. THEY PLAY CLASSIC ROCK AND BLUES AT EVENTS ALL AROUND CENTRAL IOWA. THEY ARE GRACIOUSLY PROVIDING A FREE CONCERT FOR ST. THERESA'S PARISH

Service



St. Theresa members of SVDP (Fr. Ken Gross, Amy Williams, Barb & Paul Chicoine) participated in the Friends of the Poor Walk last weekend.

October 6-Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time: In today's Gospel, Jesus tells his disciples, "Let the children come to me...for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these." **This week, please help the Society of St.**

Vincent de Paul to bring the love and mercy of Jesus to children who are hungry and cold.



The OCIA process is for the entire parish - We need you! Parishioners may participate in a variety of ways: hosts, prayer partners, storytellers, sponsors, and witnesses. **Sponsors** serve as companions for the journey of faith, offering guidance and sharing life's experiences. **Hosts** provide a snack for one session. **Prayer Partners** pray throughout the process for one particular person. **Storytellers** come to one session and share your own story of faith. **Witnesses** are everyone in the pews who show by example the importance of their faith. Are you willing to be an active participant in the process? Just by your presence in church, you have become a vital part. For any information on OCIA contact Barb Woods, 515-210-6649 or bwoods@stsdsm.com.

Seven Sisters Apostolate has a mission to pray a Holy Hour for individual priests. Each woman chooses a different day of the week. Thus, the priest receives a Holy Hour every day. It is a blessing for the priest and the intercessor! There are available spots for both Fr. Mike and Msgr. Bob. For more information, contact Jill Dimon, jdimon@stsdsm.com.

Winter Clothing Donations - Thank you for your help and those warm jackets. Call us to arrange drop off or pick up... Dick Farrell 515-205-0480 or Barb Loch 515-321-0723.



Meal Train - We can support each other through unexpected life events. Make a meal to take something off of someone else's plate! Provide one meal or many, from the comfort of your own home. This is similar to a prayer chain, but with meals being organized using the Meal Train website. To join this community of folks who want to make meals for people in their time of need, email sainttheresamealtrain@gmail.com.

School News

Last weekend, St. Theresa's middle school band students had the opportunity to perform at the Dowling Homecoming football game! Our students played three songs during the pregame, alongside band students from every school in the Diocese and the full Dowling Vanguard Marching Band!



We are hiring a bus driver, teacher associates and substitute teachers for the 2024-2025 school year. If you know a candidate that would like to work in a faith filled environment please direct them to our school website for further information. <https://sainttheresaiowa.org/school/about-our-school/employment-forms/>

TRUNK OR TREAT

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 27TH 4PM - 6PM

ST. THERESA SCHOOL PARKING LOT
5810 Carpenter Ave, Des Moines, IA 50311

FREE EVENT

Candy, Games
Apple Cider & Hot Cocoa
Fun



Catholic Community Events

The Case for Catholicism - A conversation with Taylor Fernholz, St. Augustin parishioner and Dowling Catholic High School theology teacher to learn how to articulate the profound truth and beauty of catholicism to non-catholics. Monday, October 7, 7 p.m., St. Augustin Parish Hall.

Forge - No matter where a man is in his faith, this event will be a fantastic way to grow & build community with like-minded men who strive to be better fathers & brothers for their families, friends and greater community around them. The evening starts with drinks and conversation leading into an enlightening talk to help fuel our passions to be stronger and more faithful men in the name of Christ.

Details: Doctor Ray Guarendi: Gold Medal Families
Date/Time: Tuesday, October 8, 2024; Doors open at 7 p.m.; Talk begins at 8 p.m.

Location: The Tea Room: 713 Walnut Street, Unit 600, Des Moines, IA 50309

Website - FORGE: <https://myforge.org/event/gold-medal-families/>

Young Catholic Network - Join YCN at the Diocese Pastoral Center on Tuesday, October 8th, 2024 for an evening of prayer, food, drink, networking, and a talk from David Currie, a Catholic speaker, author, and fellow at the St. Paul Center for Biblical Theology. Networking with complimentary drinks and appetizers start at 6 p.m., with panel discussion beginning at 7 p.m.

Rosary Rally for America! Please join other St. Pius parishioners to pray the Angelus, a Rosary for Life, and Marian prayers on Saturday, October 12, 12 p.m. Meet at St. Pius X Church by the bell tower at the northwest corner of the church. St. Pius clergy will lead us in prayer. Feel free to bring lawn chairs. All ages are welcome! In case of inclement weather, we will pray in the church!

Trivia - Reserve your spot at the next Catholic Charities' Centennial Trivia event on Saturday, October 19, at 5 p.m., at the Catholic Pastoral Center (601 Grand Ave., Des Moines) for an evening of great fellowship, delicious food and exciting trivia. Proceeds from the event will benefit Catholic Charities' Refugee Services. For ticket and event details visit catholiccharitiesdm.org/events.



Dowling Catholic's 63rd Annual Pancake Breakfast is on October 27th, 7:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. at the Varied Industries Building, Iowa State Fairgrounds. Proceeds support the new student activities endowment. Purchase tickets online at www.dowlingcatholic.org/pancake-breakfast. Take advantage of the group discount and invite family & friends!

Mary's Helping Hands Born To Run
November 16, 10 a.m., Valley Community Center. All proceeds benefit vulnerable expecting and new mothers and their babies. Scan the QR code for more information and to register.



Pro-Life Christmas Gala - Pulse Life Advocates will host a pro-life Christmas Gala, *A Child is Born!* on November 23rd at the Iowa Events Center. The evening consists of a cash bar, delicious dinner, Christmas auction items, and great pro-life speakers. The Saints and Sinners band will provide Christmas entertainment. Tables of ten/\$900; \$100/seat. Order online today: PulseForLife.org.

Marriage Encounter - Fall is a beautiful season full of color and crisp fresh air. A Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience is like autumn because it's a weekend full of fresh air, new beginnings, and a time to rejoice in the beauty of your marriage. It's a great time to rekindle communication and enjoy some time away. For more information call: Greg and Denise at 563 -608-3305 or register at wwme.org. Join us November 8-10 in Holstein, Iowa.

There are new job listings posted! Learn more at: www.dmdiocese.org/about-us/employment

CTO Director Position Open - CTO provides tuition assistance to over 2,300 students in 16 Catholic schools, fostering a faith-based learning environment. This critical role involves securing donations to provide tuition assistance to these students, with a 75% Iowa tax credit for donors who pay taxes in Iowa! The ideal candidate will be passionate about Catholic education and driven to advance our mission. A bachelor's degree in finance, education, or a related field is required, along with knowledge of Catholic schools and 2 to 5 years of relevant experience. The successful candidate will have strong public speaking skills, computer proficiency, excellent data management capabilities, and be an organized, results oriented self-starter.

For a full job description and qualifications, please click on the QR code!



To apply, send your cover letter and resume to: Catholic Tuition Organization, 601 Grand Avenue, Des Moines, IA 50309 or email your resume and cover letter to CTO@dmdiocese.org