



ST. THERESA OF THE CHILD JESUS

2024-2025 ANNUAL REPORT

The mission of St. Theresa of the Child Jesus Parish is to nourish our love of God, through Christ, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit. This mission is complemented by that of our school, which educates the individual child within our Catholic faith by providing excellent academic experiences and dynamic faith formation.



Dear Family of God,

As the year comes to a close, we reflect on the activities and events that have taken place in our parish and school. We are grateful for your continuous prayers and financial support, which have enabled us to serve our community effectively. Your commitment and dedication to the parish and the school community is par excellence. Fr. Mike and I appreciate you for your continuous prayers and support for our parish. Without your unflinching support, our ministry would be in vain.

This year, we have experienced some developments in our school and parish. Our early childhood program is now located in the main school building, and we have replaced the carpet with carpet tiles in the parish hall and the East Meeting Room, respectively. We are also working on improving the lighting in the church and addressing perennial HVAC and boiler issues. Some parts of the HVAC have been replaced, and efficient software has been installed.

Wrapping up the Jubilee Year of Hope

Over the past few months, we have been reflecting on the Jubilee year as pilgrims of hope. It is time to inspire hope and motivation, a time for spiritual renewal and deepening our connection to faith.

As pilgrims of hope, let's inspire hope in the lives of the weak and vulnerable, particularly those on the periphery of society.

There has been some enthusiasm to strengthen our community and evangelize after the first Alpha program. Some members are gearing up for next Alpha program. Let us use the skills from these programs to build the Kingdom of God on earth.

Care for our common home

We'll continue to care for our environment, following the principles outlined in "Laudato si'," Pope Francis' encyclical on care for our common home. We appreciate the efforts of our parishioners who volunteer to keep our environment clean.

The Peace and Justice Committee is planning to spearhead the Laudato Si action plan and book study for our parish. I would like to impress upon all to get involved and support this noble task.

Let's strive to be a citadel of hope and light for those in darkness, bearing each other's defects and being enlightened by each other's virtues.

Thank you for your support, and may God bless us all.

Sincerely,
Fr. Raphael Assamah
Pastor, St. Theresa Catholic Church



FINANCIALS

Statement of Financial Position

July 1, 2024–June 30, 2025

Assets	2025	2024
Cash and Investments	\$467,761.06	\$805,665.86
Parish Restricted Cash	\$383,926.28	\$305,951.70
Donor Restricted Cash	\$2,819,884.33	\$2,559,808.98
Accounts Receivables	\$85,307.13	\$94,903.65
Property, Equipment	\$8,700	\$8,700
Total Assets	\$3,765,614.80	\$3,775,030.19
Liabilities		
Payroll Liabilities	\$7,936.17	\$18,212.42
Other Current Liabilities	\$248,185.74	\$77,945.82
Funds Held for Other	\$3,497,118.80	\$3,437,238.78
Total Liabilities	\$3,753,240.71	\$3,533,397.02
Net Assets		
Fund Balance Totals	\$226,884.49	\$186,047.63
Dedicated Accounts		
Without Donor Restriction	\$13,066.95	\$3,883.12
With Donor Restriction	\$24,625.77	\$10,865.56
Current Period Changes in Net Assets	\$(252,203.12)	\$40,836.86
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$3,765,614.80	\$3,775,030.19

Statement of Activities

As of June 30, 2025

Operating Revenue	Budgeted	Actual
Collections	\$1,065,000	\$1,068,150.11
Collection Plate/Holiday	\$122,500	\$130,231.90
Diocesan Appeal Refund	\$0	\$7,349.09
Ignite Refund	\$0	\$19,817.32
Faith Formation/Youth Ministry	\$5,000	\$9,964.03
Other Parish Income	\$38,250	\$60,308.16
School Tuition and Fees	\$1,321,342	\$1,357,087.01
School Tuition Assistance	\$107,000	\$69,448.32
Cafeteria	\$141,500	\$131,883.31
Transportation	\$33,000	\$14,254.07
Childcare	\$632,000	\$503,230.75
Total Operating Income	\$3,466,774	\$3,371,724.17
Operating Expenses	\$747,258	\$642,198.80
Parish Salaries, Benefits & Administration	\$57,900	\$34,254.12
Parish Programs	\$1,658,280	\$1,788,924.33
School Salaries, Benefits & Administration	\$620,072	\$667,459.23
School Programs	\$282,920	\$398,487.53
Building & Grounds	\$92,603	\$92,603.28
Catholic School Assessment	\$3,461,533	\$3,623,927.29
Operating Expense Totals		
Total Income	\$3,371,724.17	
Total Expenses	\$3,623,927.29	
Net Income (Loss)	\$(252,203.12)	

Financial Notes & Highlights

- Parish income was up 3% over last year.
- School tuition and fees had a 25% increase over last year.
- Deficit was driven by two months of school payroll being realized in June as the school moved to the Des Moines Catholic Schools Region.
- Child Care revenue was 20% below budget.
- Foundation & Foundation Fund total increased 10%.
- Repair & maintenance of boilers/chillers cost was 215% over budget.
- Major Building Fund projects:
 - School Office Safety Remodel
 - Classroom Door Replacement and Safety Locks
 - Sidewalk Replacement around Campus
 - Rekeying Locks and New Electronic Door Access
 - Parish Hall Carpet Replacement
 - Rectory Window Replacement

Check Out Our Numbers

- 931 registered households in our Parish
- 939 people attended Mass each weekend
- 508 parishioners tithing on a regular basis
- 44 Baptisms; 15 which were infant Baptisms
- 5 people received into Full Communion
- 46 people received First Holy Communion
- 25 people received the sacrament of Confirmation
- 35 Funerals
- 264 Children in our Full-Time School
- 24 Members of our School Faculty
- 96 Children in our Faith Formation Programs; 26 Catechists
- Over 25 parishioners contribute their musical talent to our liturgies.
- Over 277 parishioners serve in liturgical ministries as Eucharistic Ministers, Lectors, Altar Servers and Hospitality Ministers.



COMMITTEE HIGHLIGHTS

St. Theresa Food Pantry (STFP)

- Mission is to welcome the stranger and feed the hungry who come to our church needing help. Eligible families can come once a month for a 3-day food supply and personal care items.
- The STFP is funded through private donations and grants and is run entirely by volunteers.
- We are blessed by the parishioners who volunteer to work at the pantry and the parishioners who donate food, personal care items, and money. For more information about the STFP, contact Rindy Raymond at stdsmfoodpantry@gmail.com.
- \$7,213 donations/memorials from parishioners and organizations
- \$6,449 Food Bank of Iowa food purchases
- \$1,536 Food & personal care purchases
- \$635 equipment
- \$1,026 supplies & volunteer appreciation
- 36 volunteers
- 3,120 volunteer hours worked
- 3,110 families (households) served (6.2% increase from last year)
- 10,961 individuals served (14.6% increase from last year)
- 14 school families served
- 89,606* pounds of food distributed (-.8% decrease from last year) *received from Food Bank of Iowa, Aldi, Fareway, Hy-Vee, & parishioners



St. Theresa Altar & Rosary (STARS)

Unites all the women of St. Theresa Parish through fellowship, prayer and service. We strive to share our gifts and talents for our parish community.

Fellowship/Prayer

- Sept-May Church Ladies Coffee/Rosary - 1st Saturday of the Month
- New Year Breakfast/General Meeting
- May-Outdoor Rosary - every other Thursday
- Fall Salad Supper/St. Vincent DePaul Style Show
- Advent Christmas Tea

Service

- Bishop Drumm Birthday Party
- Easter Vigil Reception
- Funeral Dinners
- Altar Clothes/Vestments Laundry
- Baptismal Boxes for the Sacrament of Baptism
- Meals for Alpha
- Anniversary/Birthday Receptions for Parish/Retired Priest

Membership

- Annual Membership Drive in October



Evangelization & Formation Highlights

- Mary Pane, New Youth Minister, takes the reins for middle-high school faith formation including Confirmation preparation
- Record number of baptisms from school children & siblings=29
- Initiated Level 1 Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Faith Formation Program for parish & school
- Young Adult Ministry reignited with monthly socials
- Adult Faith Formation expands OCIA inquiry sessions: Sundays in the summer & Wednesday evenings
- Participant in National Catholic Catechetical Leaders (NCCL) Family Faith Grant Cohort to foster greater parent & family faith
- Catholic Foundation of Southwest Iowa Grant recipient- nearly \$3000 for new live-streaming camera
- St. Joseph Evangelization Center \$3500 Fire Grant recipient to establish Level 2 Catechesis of the Good Shepherd



The Knights of Columbus Council 5389

Named a Star Council by the Knight of Columbus Supreme Office in recognition of their outstanding achievements in membership, insurance, programming, and overall operations.

Current membership - 159 members, 9 new members since last year.

Service is focused on four pillars: Faith, Family, Community & Life

Faith

- Over 5,200+ hours in areas of church facilities, religious vocations, sacramental gifts and other miscellaneous activities.
- Significant support for the Alpha program by serving as the hospitality coordinators ensuring meals were provided at each Alpha event.
- Mowing and upkeep of the parish grounds, assisting in building maintenance projects, providing service at Mass as Extraordinary Ministers, ushers, lectors, and cantors, assisting with live streaming of Masses and serving on various parish boards and committees.

Family

- 485+ hours towards programs such as Food for Families, family formation programs, family prayer night and other miscellaneous activities.
- Donated \$6,153 to our seminarians, Christ our Life, and miscellaneous faith programs. As is our tradition, we provided financial support to five Seminarians as well as Christmas baskets.
- Donated \$4,200 to Meals from the Heartland, Keep Christ in Christmas and St. Theresa Catholic School.

Community

- 1,500 + hours of service in Coats for Kids, physical and intellectual disability, and other various youth activities. A highlight of the community service hours was the annual fall cleanup drive. The Knights coordinated the event and provided house captains, workers, and trailer drivers.
- Donated \$1,100 to Coats for Kids, Iowa K of C Helping Hands, and Iowa K of C Disaster Relief.

Life

- 180 hours Special Olympics, pregnancy support, and other miscellaneous activities.
- Donated \$4,403 to InnerVisions, Mary's Helping Hands, Easter Seals, Adventures in Social Development, and Special Olympics.

Lenten Fish Fry

Our biggest fund raiser is our Lenten Fish Fry, which our parish supports enthusiastically. In 2025, we broke our record for funds raised and attendees. We raised \$9,070 and served 1,777 attendees.

CIPD drive (Tootsie Rolls) brought in \$3,400.

The CIPD drive supports organizations that serve people with mental disabilities in our community. This past year the Knights also hosted three pancake breakfasts that provided funds to upgrade church security, replace the parish hall carpet, and provide tuition assistance at St. Theresa school. In total, we raised over \$16,200 this year.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Liturgical Walk - November 17 - 23

Advent Talk on the Jubilee Year by Bishop Joensen (Topic: Hope Does Not Disappoint) - December 3, 6:30 p.m.

Advent Tea - December 6, 1 p.m.

Immaculate Conception Mass - 6:30 a.m., 8:35 a.m. & 5:45 p.m.

Communal Penance - December 10, 6:30 p.m.

Advent Retreat - December 11, 9:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Christmas Vigil Mass - December 24, 4:30 p.m. & 11 p.m.

Christmas Day Mass - December 25, 9:30 a.m.

New Year Vigil Mass - December 31, 4:30 p.m.

Solemnity of Mary - January 1, 9:30 a.m.

Winter Wisdom Speaker Series - January 14, 21, 28 & February 4,, 6:30 p.m.

Mardi Gras Gathering - February 17

Ash Wednesday - February 18, 6:30 a.m., 8:35 a.m. & 5:45 p.m.

Knights of Columbus Fish Fry - Every Friday, February 20 - March 27

Communal Penance - March 4, 6:30 p.m.

Lent Retreat/Speaker - March 12, 9:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. with lunch and reconciliation following

Lenten Talk/Retreat - March 18, 6:30 p.m.

Holy Thursday - April 2, 7 p.m.

Good Friday - April 3, 3 p.m. & 6:30 p.m.

Easter Vigil - April 4, 8 p.m.

Easter - April 5, 8:30 a.m. & 10:30 p.m.

First Communion - May 3

Confirmation - May 23, 4:30 p.m.



515-279-4654

www.sainttheresaiaowa.org

1230 Merle Hay Road, Des Moines, IA 50311