



St. Therese Catholic Church

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April 21, 2011

Dear St. Therese Friends,

*Christians, to the Paschal Victim offer your thankful praises!
A Lamb the sheep redeems; Christ, who only is sinless,
Reconciles sinners to the Father.
Death and life have contended in that combat stupendous. Alleluia!*

I write this Easter letter to our parishioners to detail a variety of important projects going on in our vibrant community over the coming months.

Summer Seminarian:

This summer we will welcome a seminarian Andy Young to St. Therese. Presently he is a seminarian at the North American College in Rome and will be ordained a deacon in October. Andy will live at our rectory and be involved in our parish life in July and August.

St. Therese pictorial directory:

It's time again for a new and updated pictorial directory. Thank you to Ted and Pat Feller for providing leadership in making this happen. Family photos will be taken in the fall so mark your calendars: August 2nd-6th; September 20th-24th; October 5th-8th.

6-12 DRE-Youth Director:

The time has come to advertise for a Directory of Religious Education (DRE)-Youth Director. I invite all our parishioners to pray for the Lord to bring to us the right candidates with the right skills, the gift of Catholic faith and most importantly a heart for serving with generosity our young people and leading them to Jesus Christ.

Changes to the Mass schedule:

Beginning the weekend of September 10th-11th, St. Therese Parish will have changes in our weekend Mass schedule. 1) *The 10:45 AM Mass will move to 11:00 AM.* The slight move of our Sunday morning Masses will allow 15 minutes more for our already rushed Faith Formation classes. This extra time will serve our children well. 2) *The 6:00 PM Mass will be discontinued.* After consulting with the Sioux Falls pastors and the Pastoral Council, these decisions were prayerfully made. An important context for understanding this change: the Diocese is in the midst of a pastoral planning for the future and we need to be prudent with how we use the spiritual resource of our priests.

I should also mention how this will affect the Sunday evening Faith Formation classes. Bridget will be surveying catechists and the families with children in Faith Formation about preferences for class times. Bridget, the Faith Formation Committee and I will then decide if we should adjust the time for this class. Please take the time to respond so that our program will serve the practical needs of our families.

Year of the Eucharist:

Last of all, let me share with the parish that we will be celebrating a "Year of the Holy Eucharist, September 2011 – October 2012. As we, along with all Catholics prepare to receive the Roman Missal (the newly translated book of prayers for the Mass) at the beginning of Advent, we will take this opportunity to reflect on the deeper meaning of the Eucharistic mystery in a variety of celebrations. Kick off will take place the weekend of September 10-11. Stay tuned for details.

Remember to keep in prayer God's works here at St. Therese during this Easter season. Let us pray for the grace to see the face of the Lord in change as it comes in a new Mass schedule, new personnel, new words and music in our prayer.

Fr. David Stevens

Youth Note from Fr. David:

Be sure your 6-12th grade youth attend the last night of Religious Ed on Sunday, May 15th. They're having 'Minute to Win It' challenges, prizes, snacks and lots of fun to close out our Religious Ed year – it's a great chance to take a break from studying for finals and have a good time with friends! Classes will start that night at 7:15 pm. Festivities will begin at 7:30 pm until 8:30 pm. Also, encourage your young people to sign up for the Valley Fair Trip taking place on Tuesday, May 24th! It'll be a great time! We have chaperones all lined up to take our St. Therese youth! Registration forms are on the youth table. They are due back to Bridget by Wednesday, May 11!