



IN LOVING MEMORY

Terri Moser

This bulletin is dedicated to the memory of our beloved Terri Moser, Director of Family Life Ministries and charter parishioner of St. Catherine of Siena Catholic Church. Terri's ministry touched so many people of our parish and the surrounding community. She will be missed by many. We will be forever grateful for her dedication and tireless work. God bless her always, may she rest in peace.

With Love, from Father Pat...

We are going to miss Terri in the office. She was such a light to us all. Over the last few years we watched as she battled her terrible illness. There were good days and bad days. All the time, Terri had this steely determination to carry on. In order to keep her focus Terri even booked herself to go on the Parish Tour this September. That was something to aim for. She was also present with us on the last tour when we went to Lourdes in France. Terri wasn't well then. I am sure it brought her great consolation to sit with Our Lady at the Shine, two women having their chat. It made us all sad when she had to cancel her spot this time.

I never met anyone with the sheer guts and determination of someone like Terri Moser. I mean, get out of her way everyone. Terri was like a freight train coming down the tracks. She had the most amazing programs to share with all of us. Quietly researching, we discovered that no other parish had any programs comparable to what Terri was presenting at St. Catherine. I was lucky enough to hear her speak. The quality of her lectures was outstanding. You could tell that she researched her topic very well. She always spoke with authority. I found her to be a very passionate woman. She loved her Music and her Opera and her Ballet. She seemed to love everything. You might remember that she stuck to a very disciplined regime when it came to her diet. I couldn't do it. Then the doctor told her that she should eat more carbs. I remember the day Terri sat in front of a big piece of carrot cake. I will never forget her joy eating cake for the first time in years. Terri had a very satisfied look on her face.



There was a meaning to everything she said and did. Terri truly embodied the meaning of servanthood. When she wasn't presenting something wonderful, she was quietly researching something new to present. I know that all the Moms will miss her terribly. When it came to motherhood and womanhood, Terri was your go to person. I think of all those workshops on parenting. The hours she spent with women. The mentoring she gave to new mothers through her Baptism classes. As I sit and reflect, I can see Terri right now in the middle of her "Holyween" party. One of the highlights was watching Terri lead the sing-along about spiders and all those other creepy things associated with Halloween. I will remember the year Terri came to the Blessing of the Animals with a couple of pugs in tow. For some strange reason, I expressed amazement at how owners start to look like their dogs. Marilyn Connell looked like her Shih Tzu and Terri Moser looked like her Pug. How we all laughed at how kind of true that was.



I have to say that Terri was remarkable at being Cantor in the Church. The first time I heard her sing at a funeral I was mesmerized at her. She sang this lonely psalm to God and Terri went all passionate. She didn't just sing the song. She poured it out with tremendous feeling. During Lent she sang the Scrutinies with the same passion. Another of her signature pieces was the singing of the Litany of the Saints. She truly loved her Catholic faith. She planted herself in a community that she loved. She was a happy Catholic woman surrounded by people she loved and people who loved her. We will never see her likes again. Dear Terri, we are going to miss you terribly. Enjoy your carrot cake.



With love,
Fr. Pat



Diocese of Austin

From Bishop Vasquez

May I express my sincere condolences to the Moser Family and to the St. Catherine of Siena family on the death of Terri. She was a wonderful role model teaching others how to be passionate about their faith and their community. May she rest in peace. Amen. - *Bishop Joe Vasquez*

A Special Tribute from Sandy

"We change the world when we simply meet the needs of another" - This quote by author Kristen Welch is displayed on my desk in the office I shared with Terri. Through parenting classes, marriage enrichment programs and talks, baptism & godparent preparation classes, ROMP, MOMS, and so many other programs, Terri met our needs before we ever knew what we needed.

We all have our Terri stories - Terri helped me to be a better parent, spouse, friend, etc. It's a tremendous legacy she left behind. She was always so worried about every class, every talk, every encounter - it had to be exactly right because this might be her only chance to impact someone. For Terri, it wasn't about reaching perfection, it was about making the connection. She was never satisfied with reaching 99% of the room so she always looked for unique ways to say things that would stick with you, her golden nuggets...the Terri-isms we are all committed to sharing with each other.



Terri taught us so much - how to be humble, love unconditionally, and the importance of paying it forward. No matter the circumstances she always approached things in a gentle and loving way. She tried to make sure every parent, spouse, baptism and godparent class participant, choir member - and everyone else in between - felt like they belonged here, no matter how disconnected from God or the church they may have felt. Terri would start every class with, "Welcome, we're glad you're here."

I can hear her telling class participants to work on self-regulation, help your children regulate their emotions, appreciate your spouse, repair regrettable incidents, name it to tame it, and every other golden nugget you can think of. I know she'll be whispering in our ears when we need it most - but we all already know the secret:

empathize with those we encounter, validate their feelings, and love, love, love everyone, especially those most difficult to love. That's it - the basis of everything she taught: *empathize, validate and love*. Sneaky Terri, she gave that same message in every program without us ever realizing it.

I still find myself saving up random things to tell her about, just like I did every time I went to visit her in the hospital or at home. I know she's watching now and seeing the outpouring of love from all those who have been touched by her. She was my friend, my mentor, my confidante, my lunch buddy and so much more. We laughed and cried together and I miss her more than I can express. She taught me so much about loving myself and others. I know she loved me, just as she loved every person she came in contact with.



So, continue to carry Terri in your hearts and minds, rely on the wisdom she shared with all of us, and be loving to those around you - your children, your spouses, and most importantly yourselves. Together, as we carry out Terri's legacy, put into action what we've learned through her teachings, and simply meet the needs of another, we too will change the world. — Sandy Guzman

From Pam Neumann

For twenty years, I would see Terri at work, always welcoming, always engaged. Terri cared so deeply about the families of the parish and beyond. As Director of Religious Education, I had many opportunities to collaborate with Terri on projects, programs and events. She was always creative, welcoming and involved. Terri was an original thinker, seeing possibilities where others saw obstacles. Because of her willingness to "think outside the box," she enriched all ministry and those who ministered with her to achieve what we often thought couldn't be done. I already miss her terribly. — Pam



From Camille Parker

St. Catherine's Preschool is so thankful for the love and support given by Terri. She helped the teachers grow in their professional development, led us in the Holy Ween party, and supported us with love and prayer during our opening years. We will forever be grateful for her silent role in St. Catherine's Preschool.

— Camille Parker, St. Catherine of Siena Preschool



"Those whom we love and lose are no longer where they were before. They are now wherever we are."

- St. John Chrysostom

From Eric Carreiro

Terri was, in all likelihood, the most committed lay Catholic minister that I ever have or ever will encounter. Her deeply personal investment in the Church was that of her whole self, undivided, in all the many aspects of the human being that she was. To that end, she unceasingly pursued her capacities as a spouse and mother, a mentor, an educator, a mental health professional and advocate, a musician and artist, and, at the heart of all of these, as a loving Catholic disciple of Jesus. Her fidelity to her principles was as tenacious and relentless as her formidable intellect. She was unafraid to examine her thoughts and motivations out loud, and held herself to ethics of work and conduct that echo those of the saints who inspired her. She stepped into breaches with zeal, taking on many a project for which there was no other champion.



In so doing, she often denied herself the rest and rewards that many would feel entitled to given her history of accomplishment. Illness itself only seemed to intensify her desire to fulfill all that she could, and to live the life she had been given to the fullest. She resumed directorship of the 7:30 Choir during this time, a group of friends and musical comrades whom she loved and longed for to the end of her active days. She recommitted to the parish ministry of infant baptism. She wanted so much to see the work she had done continue to flower; as much as we wring our hands now over how and by whose hand that will happen, that is certainly the prayer of many of us as well. We have looked far and wide for a comparable ministry to Terri's and, finding none, wondered aloud why such a seemingly fundamental Christian ministry – Family Life – would not simply be an integral aspect of Catholic communities everywhere! As I reflect on my own witness of Terri, I keep coming back to a certain aspect that should likewise be universal.

In living her life, Terri took her many gifts and passions, her needs, her heartaches and longings, and turned to God with her prayer. In hearing the answer that came through the circumstances that followed, she was then faithful to what she heard. She planted that answer as a seed in ministry, and tended it with all she could summon and muster. Because of her fidelity to the fruit of her dialog with God, the prayers of many others have also been answered through her ministry. Countless families, parents, children, godparents, fellow Catholics and others have been blessed, and the ripple effect of that blessing will continue on through their lives and the lives that they touch – for generations to come. “Be who God meant you to be, and you will set the world on fire,” our patroness Saint Catherine notably said. By all accounts Terri did just that, and we are so much the better for it. What more can we hope to say or do? For all this and more, may God bless you forever, Terri! — *With love, Eric Carreiro*

From Jo Ann Campbell

I met Terri through the MOMS Ministry in 2003. This was my introduction into her wonderful ministry and the St. Catherine of Siena parish community. Her guidance, wisdom, and grace has touched my life in a very personal way and has been a gift to my family that I will always cherish. She was my mentor and a treasured friend. I have had the pleasure to work with her since 2006 and have learned so much from her. I miss her terribly every day but am so proud and grateful to have her as part of my story.

— *With love and gratitude, Jo Ann Campbell, MOMS 19*



The family, the great workshop of love, is the first school, indeed, a lasting school where people are not taught to love with barren ideas, but with the incisive power of experience. May every family truly rediscover its own vocation to love!

— Pope John Paul II

From the Community

I will be forever grateful to Terri for pioneering a substantive Infant Baptism program on behalf of marriage, parenthood and the sacrament. But even more so, for laboring so tirelessly on behalf of the domestic church, especially while struggling with her health the last few years. What a blessing to the community she has been. *Gratefully, Charlie*

— **Charlie Balsam**, Marriage & Family Ministry Director



Terri was maybe the most humble, gentle, thoughtful and bravest woman I've ever met. Her insights to us as parents are talked about almost every day. She's taught classes on how to parent toddlers, how to refocus spiritual priorities during Christmas, how to prepare for baptism, and sat through dozens of mom retreat circles where our deepest prayers have been uttered through tears, smiles, laughs, and worries. She is as close to a priest, if not the living embodiment of lay spiritual direction and pastoral care I've ever witnessed in my 41 years as a Catholic. What she created at St. Catherine of Siena Parish should be a model for every parish. How different the world would be if it was. — **Dorothy Johnson Garbe**

Before I had children, I remember seeing the parenting classes offered by Terri in the bulletin. I planned to take one of those classes whenever I started my family. I finally got the opportunity when the first of my three children was born and I signed up as soon as possible. That was 17 years ago and I still can hear Terri saying "anger without insult." Thank you for sharing your wisdom, love and grace! And thanks to the Moser Family for sharing her with all of us! She made a huge difference in the world. I am a better person because of her. — **Vanessa Castillo**

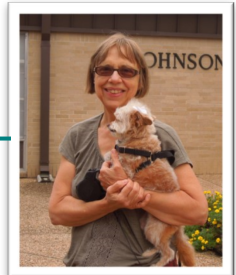


Terri is an irreplaceable treasure in our community. She worked so hard to bless our families, and everything good about my parenting - I owe to her guidance and wisdom. She was so loved, she will be deeply missed.

— **Kendall Antosh**

Terri served us all with such love and gentleness. She showed us how to embrace the vocation of motherhood. I will be forever grateful for the wisdom she shared with us. — **Emily Borromeo**

Terri's work with mothers and families were the true hands and feet of Jesus and Mary. She helped shape how we raise our kids and raise ourselves through compassion, understanding and love. Her legacy and presence will live on through our children. — **Ashley Ragland**



I'm not a parishioner of St. Catherine's, yet Terri Moser was an inspiration to me. Her leadership style, her mission to bring families together in faith and holiness to ordinary moments, and her care for others left a significant mark on my life. I feel blessed to have known her and participated in St. Catherine's parenting classes. Terri's life will continue to have ripple effects in so many lives. — **Whitney Myers**

Terri always had something positive and encouraging to say whenever I saw her. One time she met my father after Mass when he was visiting, she told him what a great job he did raising me. My father beamed and I was so appreciative of her kind words. She made everyone she knew feel special, and she gave me many words of wisdom and beautiful memories that I will cherish forever. — **Danielle Nepustil**



This is one of the lessons that Terri taught during her many Baptism classes, parenting classes, MOMS,ROMP, and so forth. As humans we are called to clothe the naked and feed the hungry. I love how Isaiah says "then your light shall break forth like dawn" because we know the good we are doing. Now what does this have to do with Terri? Terri, through all of her teachings to us, moms in particular, always used the "clothing the naked and feeding the hungry" example because as moms, dads, parents, teachers, humans, we do this day in and day out. While we may not be out on the sidewalk doing it for those who are in need, we are doing it in our homes. It is one of the major takeaways I have grabbed onto. While I am begrudgingly doing dishes, or the endless amount of laundry, I remember her, the Gospel of Matthew (25 Judgement of Nations) and the Prophet Isaiah. I will always remember Terri because her light is shining forth and boy is she saying "Here I am God!" I pray that I can only be like her to all the people I come into contact with everyday just as she has done to those she has served wholeheartedly.

— **Rachel Vaughn**

Know this, my dear brothers and sisters: everyone should be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger... James 1:19. Terri taught this through her parenting classes and workshops. She lived this and loved others. May she rest in peace. — **Allison Byars**