



St. Theodore Catholic Church ♦ Albert Lea, MN

# 2017-2018 Update

St. Theodore Confession - Saturday 4pm

Mass - Saturday 5:15pm

Mass - Sunday 9am

Broadcast on KATE 1450AM

Mass - Sunday 11am Español

## NOTES FROM THE *PASTORS*

It is hard to believe that the 2018-2019 school year is already upon us. The kids come back on the 21<sup>st</sup> of August, which is next week. Wow, how quickly the summer flew by. I am beginning my second year as Pastor of St. Theodore's parish and school, and I am confident that we will have a good year. There have been a few changes I would like to mention. As of September 13<sup>th</sup> Tonia Lauer will be retiring from her position with us as Parish Administrator. She has been a great help to me and the rest of the staff and we will greatly miss her. At this time I have not found a full time replacement for her, but will be relying on volunteers for the time being.

This year, due to two teachers leaving for other positions and a declining enrollment, we have decided to combine classes. We have wonderful and very capable teachers who are excited with the new dynamic of older children helping with mentoring the younger ones. I am looking forward to celebrating Mass with them on Wednesdays and the opportunity of teaching on Thursdays again.

Kristi Minear will be returning to run our Faith Formation programs this year. She did an excellent job last year and looks forward to building on the momentum that has been established. We will once again be facilitating classes for the younger kids on Sundays, and the older kids on Wednesday evenings. Grades pre K- through 5<sup>th</sup> will be on Sundays at 10am-11am, and grades 6-11<sup>th</sup> will meet from 6:30-7:30 pm on Wednesdays with an additional (optional) time for praise and worship and adoration once a month from 7:30 pm-8:00PM, open also to parents and other parishioners.

We have one remaining major building project (Church tuckpointing), which was delayed from this past spring due to the abundant rainfall. Most of what was needed to be done was taken care of in late 2017 and early 2018 including replacing leaking roofs, replacing a sound system, and remodeling the music space. We still have \$20,000 remaining to meet our 2018 Catholic Ministries Appeal. As you may recall, any monies donated above and beyond our goal comes directly back to the parish to address any specific capital project. If you have not yet given to this year's appeal, I would greatly appreciate your help in making our goal.

The parish is in the process of putting together a new pictorial directory. This time we decided to use one of our own for the project. Natasha Clarey is doing a wonderful job and continues to take appointments for the photos. She is taking all the photos at her studio but appointments may be set up online at [www.natashaclarey.photos](http://www.natashaclarey.photos), by calling Natasha at 507-383-0966 or the parish office. We would love to have you and your family's picture in the directory. So please make an appointment as soon as possible. All getting their picture taken will receive a free directory. There is absolutely no obligation to buy any of the photos.

Lastly, I would like to take the opportunity to thank everyone for making my first year with you such a pleasant and memorable one. I have felt overwhelmingly welcomed and loved by all of you. I feel very blessed and look forward to many more wonderful moments with you all.

Sincerely

Father Kurt Farrell

# From the Desk of Tonia Lauer

## *Reflections on a gift...*

About 12 months before I was planning to retire from my 34 year career in healthcare, a couple of friends from St. Theodore's said: "you have some gifts... " that may be of use to the new pastor (Fr. Russ) in rebuilding the Parish (following a couple of major bumps in the road). After some reflection and prayer, I did work up the courage to reach out to Father Russ to ask where I could be of assistance. We had a few conversations – I offered some ideas and then let them "percolate" for a several months. We talked off and on throughout the year – once I retired, he asked when I was coming to "work". I offered to volunteer 2 days per week...which ultimately grew into the current position of Parish Administrator working with Father Kurt.

I find myself at a new crossroads on this life's journey and will be retiring (again) on September 13 from this position at St. Theodore's. (*My husband Bob frequently tells people that "she failed retirement".*) It's always been difficult for me to admit and accept failure – I prefer to think about this time as a gift **given** to me – not at all a personal failure. Rather this past year has been filled with personal growth and the opportunity to work with an awesome team of Christ-centered individuals who have come together to work on the common goal of welcoming all *to actively participate in the life of Jesus.*

Significant gifts I have received this past year:

Enduring friendships with people I would most likely not have otherwise met – to work with the staff at St. Theodore's and the many volunteers is truly awe inspiring.

Many opportunities to continuously deepen my faith and my love of Jesus –where else could I work where it's encouraged to pray for direction, pray for peacefulness, and pray for strength!

The opportunity to see and experience miracles happening every day – when the parish has a need for something and that something appears just when we need it in just the right amount!

It's truly amazing.

The past year has been spent refining processes, policies/procedures, and staff building – the parish is in an incredible place to continue to build on the primary mission of inviting others to actively participate in the life of Jesus.

One of my favorite songs of all time: *The Prayer of St. Francis...* "Make me a channel of your peace. It is in pardoning that we are pardoned, in giving of ourselves that we receive, and in dying that we're born to eternal life." I extend a personal invitation to you to give of yourselves to continue to advance St. Theodore's mission and in return help you with your own personal mission – you will be the recipient of far more than you give.

All the best – God's blessings to you all!

WHERE THERE  
IS HOPE,  
THERE IS *faith.*  
WHERE THERE  
IS FAITH, *miracles*  
HAPPEN.

© 2008 by Joyce W.

# Mass in the Park

August 26, 2018 ♦ 10:00 AM

Edgewater Park Bandshell

Potluck & Pulled Pork after Mass!

Games for all following lunch.

**Come Join the Celebration!**



**RECONCILIATION**

**Saturday**  
4:00 pm

**Sunday**  
1/2 hour before Masses

**By Appointment**  
Call 507-373-0603

**PARISH OFFICE HOURS**

**Monday - Thursday:**  
8:00 am - 5:00 pm  
Closed for lunch 12:00- 1:00 pm

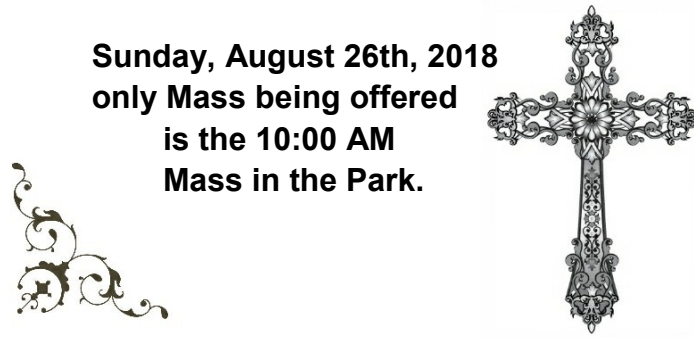
**Friday**  
8:00 am - 12:00 pm

**Changes to Mass Times**

Starting August 21st, our summer Mass Schedule ends. Below is a reminder of our regular Mass times:

- Monday.....No Mass
- Tuesday.....9:00 am
- Wednesday.....8:45 am
- Thursday Nursing Homes.....2:00 pm
- 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday.....St. John's
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday.....Good Samaritan
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday.....Thorne Crest
- 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday.....No Mass
- 5<sup>th</sup> Thursday.....No Mass
- Saturday.....5:15 pm
- Sunday.....9:00 am
- Español.....11:00am

**Sunday, August 26th, 2018**  
**only Mass being offered**  
**is the 10:00 AM**  
**Mass in the Park.**



# St. Theodore's Pilgrimages



Our trip to the Grotto in West Bend Iowa, in March 2017 was a HUGE success!

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## Future St. Theodore's Pilgrimages



### Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe

October 1, 2018

Departure 8:15 AM from  
St. Theodore's Church Parking Lot

Returning @ 5:00 PM

Cost \$40.00

Cost includes transportation,  
snacks & lunch.

**Space is still available, so call the  
rectory office to sign up and join us!  
507-373-0603**



### 12 Day Holy Land Pilgrimage

March 18-29, 2019

Bethlehem-Mt. Beatitudes-Mt. Olives  
Jerusalem-Jericho-Nazareth-Samaria

\$3,690 per person from Minneapolis

Cost includes: Roundtrip Air Transportation, First  
Class Hotels, Double Occupancy, 2 Meals a day -  
Breakfast & Dinner, Daily Sightseeing, Airport Taxes,  
Fuel Surcharges—Which are subject to change, and  
Tips to guides and drivers

Spiritual Directors:  
Fr. Robert Schneider  
Fr. Kurt Farrell

Call the parish office  
for registration  
information  
507-373-0603

# Memorial Mass Association

## AUGUST

**In memory of Joann Sullivan**  
by John Sullivan

**For the deceased members of Bowen-Schwinn-Jaquette families.**  
by Judy Jaquette

**In memory of Buboltz & Seykora families**  
by Jean Buboltz & Family

**In memory of John Buboltz**  
by Jean Buboltz & Family

**In memory of our daughter Jodi, and Ferring & Remakel families**  
by Ron & Marilyn Remakel

**In memory of Wayne Peschon and Betty & Matt Thimmesch**  
by Catherine Peschon

**In memory of Maynard Rathai**  
by Delores & Kim Stencil

**In memory of Mr. & Mrs. Felix Luna, Sr.**  
by Ray Luna and Mary Larson

## SEPTEMBER

**In memory of Art & Delores Seifert of Sleepy Eye, MN**  
by Dick & Marti Andersen

**For living & deceased members of the Borland & Haas families**  
by MaryLou Borland

**For deceased members of the Johnson, Schilken & Gentile families**  
by Lenore Fries

**In memory of Bob Maher & Kelly**  
by Mary Maher

**In memory of George Murphy**  
by Margaret Murphy

**For living & deceased members of the Krenik & Nevins families**  
by John & Betty Nevins

**In memory of Dale Peters**  
by Pat Peters

**In memory of Eva Priebe**  
by Bernard Priebe

**In memory of Peter & Marlene Tautges**  
by Larry Tautges

## OCTOBER

**In Memory of Lyle, Mardell, Don & David McCullough**  
by Doris Callahan

**In Memory of Edward H. Claassen**  
by his Family

**In Memory of Bernard Heilmann**  
by Lorraine Heilmann

**In Memory of Peter Templeman**  
by Marcia Templeman

**In Memory of Jody Templeman-Murat**  
by Marcia Templeman

**For Living & Deceased Members of the Plaetz & Zeman Families**  
by Roger & Colleen Zeman

## NOVEMBER

**In Memory of Leo, Murph & Pat Donovan, and extended family**  
by Bob Donovan

**In Memory of Ruth O'Brien**  
by family & friends

**In Memory of Dennis Raleigh**  
by Amanda & John Grzybowski

**In Memory of David & Carol Becker**  
by their Children & Grandchildren

**In Memory of Ryan Michaelis**  
by Julie & Dennis & Jill Michaelis

**In Memory of Mary Moore**  
by Mike & Suzanne Moore

**In Memory of Helen & the Rudolph & Skochenski Families**  
by Arthur Rudolph

**In Memory of the Souls of Gregory & Frances Leiferman**  
by their daughter, Sandy

**In Memory of Leonard, Irene & Daniel Enstad**  
by Diane Schlosser

**In Memory of In Memory of Joan Soller**  
by Victor Soller

**In Memory of Eddie Staloch**  
by Janie, his wife

**The Living & Deceased Members of the Stegenga & Balfe Families**  
by James & Christin Stegenga

**The Living & Deceased Members of the Sullivan & Cogley Families**  
by Pat & Joan Sullivan

**For Deceased Family Members of Irvin & Mary Zenk**  
by Irvin & Mary Zenk

**In Memory of Virgil Ryan, great-granddaughter: Ashely Mandler,  
granddaughter: Bridget Hale, & Ryan & Larkin Families**  
by Shirley Ryan and Dave & Vicky Book

## DECEMBER

**For the Dolan and Burns Families**  
by Jim & Marilyn Burns

**In Memory of Roger Paczkowski**  
by Joan

**In Memory of Ray Roberts and the Deceased Members of the  
Roberts, Victor and Ochocki Families**

**In Memory of Gerald Rollinger**  
by Karen & Family

**In Memory of the Deceased Family Members of Byron & Ruth Spear**

**In Memory of John & Mary Cruser**  
by Joan-Anne & Lenny Shelhammer

*For a donation of \$60 (per listing) one Mass each month for a year will be said for all those who are enrolled individually or as a family. Enrollment may begin at any time during the year. Our Memorial Mass is said the second*

## JANUARY

**In Memory of Luella & Robert Bergen**  
by their Children

**In Memory of Norman Heisterkamp & Mark Heisterkamp**  
by Alice Heisterkamp & Family

**In Memory of Deceased Family Members of Leo & Marilyn Holl**  
by Marilyn

**In Memory of Mark & Avice Kunkel and Jean Haiar**  
by Family

**In Memory of Vernon & Tricia Nelson**  
by Pearl & Family

**For a Special Intention**  
by Pearl & Family

## FEBRUARY

**In Memory of Arlan & Kathy Brackey**  
by Brackey Family

**Ruben Anderson**  
by Judy Popp-Anderson

**Living & Deceased Family Members of Judy Popp-Anderson**  
by Judy Popp-Anderson

**In Memory of Gwen Tatarek**  
by Andy & Family

**In Memory of Marlene & the Deceased Members of the Tautges & Bock Families**

by Larry Tautges Family

**In Memory of Casper Jacobs**  
by wife, Thelma

**In Memory of Herman & Leola Wach**  
by Leo & Elaine, & Lars Wach

**In Memory of Lars & Ruth Mogensen**  
by Leo & Elaine, & Lars Wach

**In Memory of Rose Pederson**  
by her sister, Margaret Murphy

## MARCH

**In Memory of Mr. & Mrs. Charles Peterson**  
by their daughter Margaret Newell

**In Memory of Mr. & Mrs. F.D. Newell**  
by their son Thomas Newell

**In Memory of Lillian Cisewski**  
by her Family & Friends

**In Memory of Jeanne Johnson**  
by Lloyd I. Johnson

**In Memory of Stan Kukuzke**  
by Charlene Kukuzke

**For Living & Deceased Members of the Munson & Kukuzke Families**

by Charlene Kukuzke

**In Memory of Becky Knipping**  
by Bernice & Alice VanVooren & Family

**In Memory of Janet Lauer**  
by Lauer family

## APRIL

**In memory of Robert Schultz & Becky Weigel**  
by Evelyn Schultz

**In memory of Henry & Florence Stephan**  
by Dave & Pat Johannsen

## MAY

**In memory of Jim Fobair**  
by Lorraine & Family

**In memory of Mr. & Mrs. Clem Schleck**  
by their son, Tom Schleck

**In memory of Bill & Mary Moore**  
by Michael & Susan Moore

## JUNE

**In Memory of Christopher Copeland , Doris & Everly Schroeder**

by Kenneth Schroeder & Family

**In memory of Bill Olinger**  
by Irene Olinger

**In memory of Tim Olinger**  
by Irene Olinger

**For the Tikalsky & Nistler families**  
by Bob & Darlene Nistler

**In memory of Helen, David & Kenneth Burnett**  
by their Family

**In memory of Berneice Paczkowski**  
by Russell Paczkowski, Marie, Margo, Joanne, Julie & Dan

**In memory of Donna Meirose**  
by Jeanne Wendell

**In memory of John & Greg Dickerman & for Bob & Anne Dickerman's families**

**For All Priests, Deacons and Sisters who served this parish now and in the past**

by Ruth & Byron Spear

## July

**In memory of Pat L. Callahan**  
by Doris Callahan

**In memory of Ryan Moore**  
by Mike & Suzanne Moore

**For the living & deceased members of the Alvin & Bonnie Stenzel families**

**In memory of Loretta Kermes**  
by her Family

**In memory of Donald Stencil**  
by Delores & Kim Stencil

**In memory of Don & Betty Cashin's parents & grandsons, Timmy Cashin, Spencer DeWild & Gene Krenik**

by Don & Betty Cashin

# Sacraments Since August 2017

## Baptisms

Clide Gonzalez III (08-12-17)	Henley Irene Hansen (10-29-17)	Vanesa Enriquez (03-24-18)
Eliana Mae Gonzalez (08-12-17)	Jaelynn Isabell Mae Battey (11-19-17)	Otto Clemens Riedel (04-21-18)
Maci Mae Rothmeier (08-12-17)	Olivia Lazaro Gutierrez (11-19-17)	Max Joseph English (04-22-18)
Joseph Dean Hackenmiller II (08-16-17)	Cecilia Grace Leesch (11-25-17)	Alan Carlos Vazquez Ponciano (5-27-18)
Juan Agustin Obregon (08-16-17)	Anthony Tommy Melendez (12-03-17)	Karla Linnette Vazquez Ponciano (5-27-18)
Leonardo Chiquil (08-26-17)	August Tommy Melendez (12-03-17)	Aurora Lee Hanson (06-24-18)
Isabella Ambriz (09-02-17)	Ajay Tommy Melendex (12-03-17)	Mia Jasleen Merritt Vazquez (06-23-18)
Moises Ambriz (09-02-17)	Jesus Osvarado Gonzalez III (12-17-17)	Patricia Gabriela Hench (06-30-18)
Vincent Anthony Samudio (09-16-17)	Beckett Robert Wangen (12-17-17)	Paxton Daniel Honsey (06-30-18)
Johan Pedro Amador (09-17-17)	Luke Shannon Ralieggh (02-10-18)	Luis Aguel de Jesus Pineda (07-7-18)
Ezequiel Silviano Puente (10-07-17)	Vienna Michael Anderson (02-17-18)	Alexis Kaye Schatz (07-14-18)
Mia Jarelyz Perez Cano (10-28-17)	Meike Catherine Novosad (02-18-18)	Jorge Boites Noviembre (07-22-18)
Kiarya Yessenia Cano (10-28/17)	August Mark Schone (02-25-18)	Sofia Yaribeth Gallardo Ortiz (07-28-18)
Riley James Culhane (10-28-17)	Kylie Marie DeRaad (03-11-18)	

## First Communion

Ava Arnold	Marlee Goskeson
Marisol Arteaga Gonzalez	Alexander Guanella
Yarettzy Barreda-Yebra	Isabella Kohn
Javier Boites	Stephanie Lazaro
Joel Boites	Brian Lopez
Isidro Cavazos	Daizy Moser
Kendal Clarey	Alondra Omana-Garcia
Daniel Clark	Julio Pacheco Ortiz
Lili De Jesus Pineda	Janely Perez Tuxpan
Jennifer De Leon	Josue Perez Tuxpan
Emma Dempewolf	Evelyn Puga
William Diaz	Natalie Puga
Jose Enriquez	Jose Salazar
Vanesa Enriquez	Maria Toj-Chach
Maria Guadalupe Flores	Emilie Troster
Camille Fornwald	Gabrielle Tufte
Annais Garcia-Ortiz	Jossie Venegas
Noe Gonzalez Hernandez	Lily Wentzel
Jordan Johnson	Jaxon White

## Confirmation

Logan Alfson	Levi Kermes
Venesses Brito-Lino	Estaban Johnson
Spencer Chicos	Levi Kermes
Natalie Day	Joseph Kreun
Brenda De Rosas	William Kreun
Alexandra Eckstrom	Justin Larscheid
Eduardo Garcia	Xitalli Lopez
Emma Grossman	Brody Nielsen
Keith Grzybowski	Isaac Olvera
Greta Hagen	Luz Ruiz
Tyler Harms	Michael Savelkoul
Andrew Huerta-Ortiz	Lexie Simon
Anthony Heurta-Apanco	Olivia Stensrud
Estaban Johnson	

## Marriages

September 16, 2017
Antonio Ceronio Aquirre
Silvia Zeferino Amador
October 28, 2017
Jayson Perez Rivera
Emilia Cano-Jimenez
November 18, 2017
Aaron Douglas Christenson
Cheryl Jean Ille
November 25, 2017
Trent Edward Leesch
Amy Jo Mallory
February 17, 2018
Lucas Novosad
Jessica Yanker
March 31, 2018
Robert Eugene Saindon
Theresa Salazar
June 23 2018
Levi Houston Hughes
Sharon Marie Meyer

## Deaths

Teresa Fitzgerald (07-02-17)	Mabel Florence Reichow (01-27-18)	Dorothy M. Harty (04-09-18)
Fern Shea (10-25-17)	David Richard Yokiel (01-29-18)	Thomas Mark Chicos (06-13-18)
Kathleen A. Wilder (11-03-17)	Karen Marie Nyenhuis (02-04-18)	Howard D. Attig (06-16-18)
Nora Mary Adams (11-08-17)	Janet Ruth Lauer (02-15-18)	Bonita Mary Kral (06-21-18)
Raymond J. Cochlin (11-11-17)	Thomas Lyle Becker (02-23-18)	Charles Francis Harty (05-01-18)
Ruth E. O'Brien (11-15-17)	Gwendolyn Joan Delger (02-23/18)	John Edward Bergen (05-08-18)
Randolph G. Kehr (11-23-17)	Alice M. Olson (02-23-18)	Michael Ahern (07-17-18)
Frederic R. Hockenhull (12-22-17)	Frances Marcia Blakestad (03-29-18)	Mary Kay Johnson (07-21-18)
Raymond Hernandez Sr. (12-31-17)	Eugene Karl Harig (04-01-18)	Darroll Johansen (08-06-18)



**Faith Formation**  
**PreK-12th grade**  
**2018-2019**



**Dear Families,**

This is a special invitation for you and your children!

We are looking forward to beginning a new year of **Faith Formation at St. Theodore's for the 2017-18** school year. There are lots of opportunities for your child to come to know, love and serve God!

***"No Faith Formation program is successful unless it's supported, lived and carried out in the home."***

We will continue to keep our registration cost down. We hope money will never be a reason why your kids are not involved in our Faith Formation Program. If there is hardship, please contact us.

We are having parent meetings to discuss schedules and answer any questions. Please try to attend as it will be beneficial to you and your child. I will try to keep the parent meeting to ½ hr. long. The following are our schedule parent meetings:

- ◆ **Sunday, September 9<sup>th</sup> @ 2:00 pm** in the church: **PreK-4th grade, & First Communion Students.**
- ◆ **Wednesday, September 5<sup>th</sup> @ 6:00 pm** in **Marian Hall: For 5-11th graders & parents potluck.** This will be our registration day for students and important information for our 10th & 11th grade Confirmation students. We will also talk with the parents of the 5-9th graders on this night. This will be a pot-luck, so please bring a dish to share. We will also be discussing our 2019 Mission Trip.

I look forward to meeting with you all!

**Kristy Minear**  
**373-2987**  
**kam@stteho.org**



# St. Theodore Faith Formation Registration

## 2018-2019



Please use this form to register all of your students for Faith Formation classes for the 2018-2019 year.

**\*\*This form and registration fee due September 5<sup>th</sup>. \*\***

Mother's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Father's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Youth who are Participating: \_\_\_\_\_ GRADE STUDENT'S BIRTH DATE

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Student's e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Student's Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

<p>I give permission for photos of my child(ren) to be posted on any St. Theo's media.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Yes or No</p> <p>We will be sending out Text alerts if weather is bad or important messages, using the cell phone or e-mail. Please indicate which one works best for you.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Cell or E-mail.</p>
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**Our household will participate in the following:**

\_\_\_\_\_ Family with 3 or more in Program Fee \$75.00/max

\_\_\_\_\_ Preschool 3-5 year old (must be potty trained) Fee: \$15/person

\_\_\_\_\_ Grade K & 1 Fee: \$30/person



# St. Theodore School News

## PRINCIPALLY SPEAKING By Principal Sue Amundson

(E-mail: [principal@sttheo.org](mailto:principal@sttheo.org))

(School phone: 373-9657)

**MISSION STATEMENT: St. Theodore Catholic School promotes excellence through a well-rounded academic curriculum in a Christ-centered environment for children of all faiths.**

*Can you believe St. Theodore Elementary School reopened 23 years ago? That sounds like a long time, yet it seems like it has been a short time. As I reflect on my time at St. Theodore, I find myself feeling blessed to be a part of this special "family". Our family has worked hard to provide an excellent education in our Christ-centered environment for children of all faiths.*

*We are quickly approaching the beginning of a new year. We are kicking it off with a potluck in Marian Hall on Aug. 15th. Following the potluck the parents will be meeting with their teachers. Our staff this year includes:*

- *Mary Tuohy (Kindergarten & First Grade)*
- *Natasha Clarey (2nd & 3rd Grade)*
- *Ryan Hillman (4th & 5th Grade)*
- *Sue Amundson (Pre-Kindergarten & Principal)*
- *Ann Fernandez (Morning supervisor & Full time aide in Kindergarten/1st Grade Room)*
- *Aimee Chalmers (Spanish & Religion)*
- *Elisha Marin (Art & Music in morning and aide in the 2nd/3rd Grade room in the afternoon)*
- *David Cheeks (Phy Ed)*
- *Kristina Garcia (School Secretary)*
- *Jolene Dillmuth (Cook)*
- *Fr. Kurt (Religion)*

*On August 17th, students will be coming in for their pictures, to bring in their supplies and get can set for the first day of school. The first day of school for K-5 will be Aug. 21st and our Pre-Kindergarten will be Aug. 27th.*

*We are looking for more volunteers to help serve lunch from 11:45 am - 1:00 pm. Those interested can contact Sue Amundson, [samundson@sttheoschool.org](mailto:samundson@sttheoschool.org), or Kristina Garcia, [kgarcia@sttheoschool.org](mailto:kgarcia@sttheoschool.org) or call and leave a message at 373-9657. We would truly appreciate your help. (All volunteers will need to be Virtus trained. Our next date for training is set for Thurs., Sept. 6th in Marian Hall from 5:30-8:30pm. You must register for this so we can have enough materials available to all who come.*

*Throughout the years, we have been blessed with others that help us to continue our mission. These are people I consider to be our "angels" on earth. These angels volunteer their time, help to provide financial help, or continue to offer prayers and encouragement.*

*Thank you to those that gave donations from our "giving tree" during the first month of school.*

*Thank you to those that help through the SCRIP program.*

*Thank you to those who donate to our Adopt-A-Student fund.*

*Thank you to those that help in any way! Thank you for allowing God to work through you!*

*\*If you would like to make a donation or Adopt-A-Student, contact Sue or Kristina in our school office.*

*On September 28<sup>th</sup>, our school will participate in the Marathon for Nonpublic Schools. Our students, K – 5<sup>th</sup> grade will walk the lake to earn money through pledges and donations. This is one of our school's bigger fundraisers and provides an opportunity to show our school pride while generating important financial support for school programs. Please help us out if you are asked. If a child does not get a chance to ask you please contact us to make a donation. THANKS to all who help our school through your kindness and generosity.*

*If you would like to enroll your child, call 373-9657 or stop in and get them registered today.*

*For more information on the school, check out our State of the School letter.*

*God Bless,  
Sue Amundson*



# ST. THEODORE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

323 East Clark Street  
Albert Lea, MN 56007-2955  
Phone: (507)-373-9657

School Principal  
Susan Amundson  
samundson@sttheoschool.org

## MISSION STATEMENT

St. Theodore Catholic School promotes excellence through a well-rounded academic curriculum in a Christ-centered environment for children of all faiths.

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### State of the School

St. Theodore Elementary School  
2017-2018 School Year

**Shaping, thriving and inspiring the youth of our parish and community.**

Jesus said, "Let the children come to me, and do not hinder them," Matthew 19:14. We are grateful for the opportunity to educate children, incorporating the message of Christ throughout our whole curriculum. We are grateful for the trust parents place in us to provide that education. We are grateful to our parish for their continued prayers, the facility, and for the monthly financial support they provide.

We are grateful for our school administrator, Sue Amundson. She is both teacher for the Pre-K program and principal of the school. Her dedication and compassion shown for each individual student is impressive. She provides leadership for the school including teaching and support staff members. She provides accurate and important information for the school board attending all of our meetings. She participates in diocesan meetings, keeps the accreditation current, and is an ever positive spirit. We are also grateful to our teaching staff. We are blessed to have professional qualified teachers that reach out to the individual student to help them learn. The teacher to student ratio allows time for the individual needs of each student to be met.

The 2017-2018 academic school year was very busy and flew by quickly. We are an accredited school which requires ongoing evaluation and documentation of our programs. While all programs are current and the required documentation complete, this year we have focused on providing a safe environment for our students. The incidence of school violence has raised concern for every school including our own. Policies and procedures have been updated along with facility changes and ongoing training for our staff and those having direct student contact. We are committed to ensuring the safety of all who enter our facility.

Marketing our school has also been a major focus. Our marketing committee has been working on enhancing our electronic presence. We have a marketing video posted and have been updating our website. Interaction with social media allows us to continually keep the school families, parishioners and public aware of the events and opportunities at our school. We have started working on an alumni group so former students can stay in touch with their alma mater. We are coming up on the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of St. Theodore School and want to include all who have been touched by and contributed to our success.

Academically our students are being successful! We have invested heavily in technology this year. Each student now has an age appropriate electronic device that they can use. Our staff has been working to integrate these devices into all areas of the learning process and all standardized testing is completed using these devices. Our children gain experience daily using Chromebooks, iPads, Smart boards, and spend time in the computer lab for both personal assignments and collaborative projects with fellow classmates. This investment in technology was and is essential to the academic success of each student and for career opportunities well into their futures.

The pre-k program was very successful this year. Transportation issues were resolved with the availability of the SMART bus. Enrichment programs continue with music, art, and Spanish. The school participated in food drives, cooperative learning with peers, various fundraising efforts for our community programs, and with individual classroom service projects. School outings such as visits to the Historical society, experiencing nature with the farm tours, and enjoying field trips also provided opportunity to learn while developing socially with their peers. Personal development through parish involvement during the liturgical year adds to each student's personal growth and educational opportunity. Christmas programs, Lenten journey with Stations of the Cross, and Crowning of Mary in May are a few examples. Catholic schools week is an exciting time to celebrate being a part of the church's rich tradition of providing Catholic education. Public speaking is enhanced with opportunities to be lectors. Gifts and talents are shared as cantors or being members of the children's choir. As an alter server, children can experience deeper meaning in the Mass. Education meets faith during Mass and faith is brought to the classroom with weekly visits from Fr. Kurt.

The financial health of our school is sound. The school board works diligently with the principal reviewing the monthly income and expenses to make certain everything is kept up-to-date. We also have been able to plan for expenses such as the ongoing curriculum updates and computer needs to meet the continual changes in education and remain state of the art. Finances are provided to the school through student tuition, Seeds of Faith tuition assistance from the diocese, Adopt a student program, The St. Theodore Endowment Fund, the fundraising efforts of our Parent Student Association, Parish contribution, and through the many generous individual donors in our Parish and community.

The mission statement of our school - 'To promote excellence through a well-rounded academic curriculum in a Christ-centered environment for children of all faiths'- is embraced and being carried out. We expect and encourage family support through active participation in the education of our children. PAKET Day (Parents and Kids Eat Together) allows families to share lunch with their students once a month. Family participation in school events, fundraisers, weekly Mass, room parents, chaperones, school board members, and PSA (parent student association) membership is strongly encouraged. School members become a family and active participation strengthens the family.

There is room to join our school family. Please pray for our school, the students and their families. If you have a school age child, prayerfully consider joining our family!

Respectfully submitted,

2017-2018 School Board: Mike Johnson, Bart Berven, Camilla Kolker-Sparks, Alma Guerra, Deanne Zogg, Mandy Grzybowski, Erin Haag, Melissa Wittmer



# St. James

## Twin Lakes

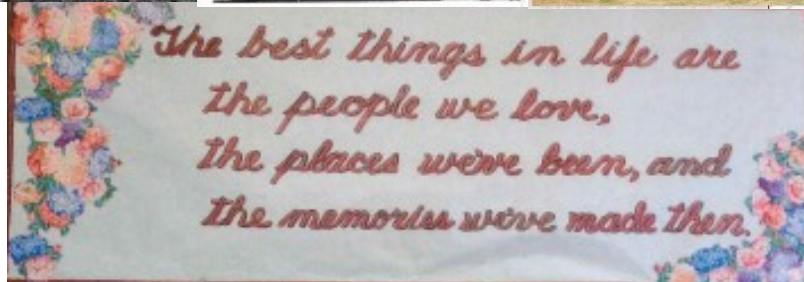
1876-2018

In 1865 services were first held at the local school District #45 by Father George Keller of Faribault. In 1886, Father James Flemming purchased the land where the last building stood prior to being torn down on January 30, 2018. In 1887, Father James Donovan became pastor and served the parish for 46 years. In honor of these men, the church was dedicated St. James. The First Mass was held on December 25, 1887 and the final Mass was celebrated with Bishop John Quinn on June 29th, 2017.

In March of 1950, fire destroyed the original church and a wooden structure built in 1891 by Pickeral Lake Concordia Lutheran Church was purchased for \$1000 and moved to Twin Lakes. In 1980, extensive damage occurred when lightning struck its steeple.

Saint James Parish was a mission parish and was served by priests from Saint Theodore Parish for over a century. During its time, the parish provided activities and fellowship for not only Twin Lakes but the surrounding rural areas.

St. James physical presence will be missed but the memories will always be cherished and shared for generations!



# Get to know your church councils & new staff!

## Parish Council

Sue Miller - *Chair*  
 Loren Lair - *Vice Chair*  
 Betsy Schultz - *Secretary*  
 Dick Freese  
 Cheryl Intihar  
 Judy Popp-Anderson  
 Harold Kermes  
 Cindy Merfeld  
 Linda Cruz-Lares - *Trustee*  
 John Forman - *Trustee*

## Finance Council

Rick Harves - *Chair*  
 Kim Otten - *Secretary*  
 Bob Blong  
 Doreen Dieser  
 John Forman  
 Mike Kruse  
 Henry Savelkoul  
 Dan Bodensteiner - *staff*  
 Sue Miller - *Parish Council*  
 Harold Kermes - *Parish Council*  
 Linda Cruz-Lares - *Trustee*  
 John Forman - *Trustee*  
 Fr. Kurt Farrell - *Pastor*

## Building & Grounds

John Forman - *Chair*  
 Rick Harves - *Co-Chair*  
 Terry Fox - *Secretary*  
 Doug Conn  
 Elso Ryks  
 Leonel Lopez-Ortiz - *staff*  
 Dick Freese - *Parish Council*  
 Loren Lair - *Parish Council*  
 Fr. Kurt Farrell - *Pastor*

## Faith Formation Council

Kiki Christenson  
 Jeremiah Forman  
 Alma Guerra  
 Brenda Hanson  
 Tami LaCanne  
 Gina Ortiz  
 Kristy Minear  
 Judy Popp-Anderson - *Parish Council*  
 Kristy Minear - *Staff*  
 Fr. Kurt Farrell - *Pastor*



## School Board

Mike Johnson - *Chair*  
 Bart Berven  
 John Clarey  
 Beth Erickson  
 Mandy Grzybowski  
 Alma Guerra  
 Camilla Kolker-Sparks  
 Deanne Zogg  
 Sue Amundson - *Principal*  
 Sue Miller - *Parish Council*  
 Cindy Merfeld - *Parish Council*  
 Linda Cruz-Lares - *Trustee*  
 John Forman - *Trustee*  
 Fr. Kurt Farrell - *Pastor*



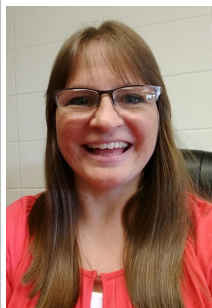
## Head Custodian

We are so grateful for the many blessings the Lord has given us through Leonel Lopez Ortiz (Leo), our Head Custodian. Leo comes to us with a multitude of skills and abilities and a wonderful drive to help build up our parish community by maintaining our parish campus. Leo, his wife, Maria, and two daughters, Tamara and Maray, are active members of St. Theodore's parish, especially within our Hispanic community. We welcome Leo and are grateful to have him as a strong team member of our parish staff!



## Custodial Assistant

We also welcomed Joseph Kreun as part time custodial staff to our parish team on July 23rd. Joe will primarily be responsible for ensuring the school is in tip-top-shape every day so teachers and students can freely learn in a bright and clean environment.



## Parish Office Coordinator

We welcome Joanne Tibodeau as our parish office coordinator. She lives in Wells, MN with her husband John. Prior to coming to St. Theodore's, Joanne was the principal at St. Casimir's Catholic School for 16 years. She is excited to be starting this new journey the Lord has her on and is humbled to have been chosen to serve the parish community of St. Theodores.



2018 At Home Mission Trip Volunteers



2017 Christmas Pageant



2018 Souper Bowl



2018 Camp Summit



Happy Anniversary Father!



2018 RCIA Adult Catechumens & sponsors

Just some of our Parish activities and events!



Confirmation Students & Sponsor Faith Building Activity

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Albert Lea, MN 56007

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Father Kurt Farrell

**OFFICE COORDINATOR**.....507-373-0603  
Joanne Tibodeau office@sttheo.org

**BOOKKEEPER** .....507-373-1646  
Dan Bodensteiner dfb@sttheo.org

**ST. THEODORE SCHOOL**.....507-373-9657  
Sue Amundson, Principal principal@sttheo.org  
Kristina Garcia, Secretary schoolsecretary@sttheo.org

**FAITH FORMATION**.....507-373-2987  
Kristy Minear, Director faithformation@sttheo.org

**ST. THEODORE CEMETERY** .....507-402-4343  
Steve Merfeld

**CATHOLIC CHARITIES** ..... 507-377-3664  
Joye Wolf, Counselor www.ccwinona.org

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373-0498 John Forman

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373-0472 Mike Kruse  
373-7881 Bob Blong  
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377-8041 Kim Otten

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