

Welcome to Sacred Heart Parish:

We are so glad that you have decided to become part of our community of faith. It is the mission of Sacred Heart Parish to be a visible and spiritual focal point of the Catholic Church here in West Des Moines. We believe and proclaim as central to our mission that Jesus Christ is Lord. We invite all our parishioners to experience and live the love of Jesus Christ in their own lives. We hope that each person has a sense of belonging through the social and spiritual life of the parish. Sacred Heart Parish seeks to help its members to put on the "mind of Christ" through prayer, study and worship. We invite every member of the community to be good stewards of their God given gifts by returning and sharing those gifts with others within the parish and beyond.

As a Catholic community of faith we are first and foremost a Eucharistic people. When we gather at the altar of the Lord we celebrate and proclaim in word and sacrament our central belief that Jesus Christ is Lord. It is our hope that you will join with us every Sunday for the celebration of the Eucharist. **Our weekend Masses are celebrated on Saturday at 4:00 PM and on Sunday at 8:00 AM, 9:30 AM, 11:15 AM and 1:00 PM Spanish Mass.** We also offer the Sacrament of Reconciliation every Saturday from 2:30 PM to 3:30 PM in the Reconciliation room in our gathering space or by appointment with one of our priests.

Our parish community has many strong and vibrant faith formation programs. Sacred Heart School is one of our primary missions as a Catholic parish here in West Des Moines. Our school provides an exceptional education in a faith filled environment for students Pre-K through eighth grade. We also have an excellent Children's Faith Formation (CFF) program, a lively youth ministry program for teens (SMASH), and a solid preparation program for our young people preparing for the sacraments. We invite those who are not Catholic to consider joining the Catholic Church through the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA). We encourage all of the members of our parish to be lifelong learners by taking advantage of all the opportunities to Grow In Faith Together (GIFT). Sacred Heart Parish is 125 years old and we are proud of our rich and diverse history as a community of faith. We are a parish of immigrants and we desire to strengthen our bonds as the Body of Christ while we strive today to celebrate and welcome the rich faith and cultural traditions of all our most recent immigrants, especially the Hispanic members of our parish family.

It is our hope that you will take advantage of all of the opportunities that we offer here at Sacred Heart to be formed in the Sacred Heart of Jesus and his special love for each one of us. As we deepen our knowing of that gift we have received in Christ Jesus we sense a growing responsibility to give back by putting the Lord at the center of our lives. We are called to put Him first in our lives by volunteering our time and talent and treasure by participating in our Tithing/Sacrificial Giving Program here at Sacred Heart. Your giving back in response to the gift of faith is essential for us to enrich and grow our large and thriving Catholic community of faith.

The one thing that we hear time and again from new and long term Sacred Heart parishioners is that this is a community of faith where people can feel at home and grow. We hope that you will feel at home among us and that you will want to grow with us on the journey of faith. Please feel free to stop by the office or to call us (515-225-6414) if there is anything we can do for you. Finally visit our webpage for more information at [www.sacredheartwdm.org](http://www.sacredheartwdm.org).

PEACE,

The Priests and Staff of Sacred Heart Church

**Please note: Be sure to fill out the New Member Registration form and the Tithing Pledge form and return it to the parish office in the enclosed envelope. Thank you.**