# Gratitude

We are grateful for these many blessings

Dear St. Therese Community,

In this New Year we have many reasons to be grateful! Below are just some of the ways that God has blessed our parish and school this last year. They are certainly not exhaustive as we know there are many more. Please know how we are especially grateful for each of you!

Blessings in the New Year!
Gratitude Gala Celebration Committee

## Leadership:

- Fr. Andrie installed as our pastor
- New Parochial Vicar, Fr. McClellan (first since 1985)
- New Seminarian, Adam Johnson (first since 1990's)
- New Parish Business Administrator – Kathleen Ritter
- New addition to Music Ministry; Jeff Judge - Director of Music,
  - Cole Thomas – New Accompanist, and many new talented musicians
- New Youth Minister, Katrina Siebels
- Deacon John Cleveland ordained
- Three St. Therese graduates from the Archbishop Harry J. Flynn Catechetical Institute

## Parish Gifts Received Together in Strength:

- Confidence in Jesus Campaign great success - Exceeded 100% of campaign goals!
  - Over 60% of the loan now paid down to date
- Parish financial condition has been stabilized
- Stewardship increased 16% from FYE 16 to FYE 17
- Fund-A-Need Accomplishments:
  - Fixed three sections of the parish roof
  - Baptismal font will arrive from Italy in January
  - New school kitchen oven and range
- Parish Improvements:
  - Beautified outdoor classroom with plants and flowers
  - New rectory for priests
  - New parish digital sign
  - New tabernacle and monstrance for chapel
  - Repainted extensive areas of the interior and exterior of the church

## School Growth:

Half day preschool opened in 2016 and has grown from 18 to 37 children this last year

Preschool and school combined grew over 60% in the past two years, the largest percentage growth in the Archdiocese

Over 90% of students met or exceeded grade level standards in math and reading

## Creating Discipleship:

Parish Outreach and Service:

3,910 pounds of fresh produce from our parish garden to ICA

93,528 meals packed with Feed My Starving Children

171 Christmas boxes packed for ICA

New educational website available called Formed.org

Catholic Watchmen, men's ministry, grew substantially

Men's Bible Boot Camp with Jeff Cavins in September

1st Annual Women's Retreat last January

New women's small groups

Reintroduced the Cana Dinner for married couples

Growth in Lenten fish fry dinners and soup suppers

New Advent and Lenten Reflections

Numerous coffees, dinners and brunches shared

New opportunities to grow in faith for our youth, including Life Teen, EDGE, and NET Ministries

Partnered with Catholic Schools Center Of Excellence

Archbishop Hebda and Bishop Cozzens celebrated Mass with us

## Sacramental Life:

Adoration hours expanded again in 2017 – Over 1500 hours of dedicated prayer to date

Number of baptisms increased from 32 in 2016 to 42 in 2017

Reconciliation hours expanded

Sunday Mass attendance increased

# Together, Let's Celebrate God's Many Blessings!

Save the date; Friday • April 20, 2018 • Hazeltine National Golf Course

For the GratiOude Gala Celebration