

St. Theresa
Parish Café
ALL ARE WELCOME



Love God.
Love Others.
Make Disciples.
Change the World.

THE HEARTH

VISION & MISSION

*A place where hearts are revived,
disciples are formed, and people are sent out to serve.*



VISION

The vision of The Hearth is to become the welcoming heart of St. Theresa Parish: a place where hearts are revived, disciples are formed, leaders are raised up, and people of all ages are gathered into deeper relationship with Christ and one another. Through hospitality, prayer, formation, fellowship, and service, The Hearth seeks to strengthen parish life and send people out to love and serve both the Church and the wider community.



MISSION

The mission of The Hearth is to strengthen and renew parish life by creating a warm and practical gathering place where authentic Christian community can grow and hearts can be drawn more deeply to Christ. Through hospitality, prayer, faith formation, pastoral care, fellowship, and outreach, The Hearth seeks to welcome people, form disciples, raise up servant leaders, help individuals and families discover their gifts, and send them out to serve both the parish and the wider community.



GATHER

Welcome people into
authentic Christian
community.



GROW

Form disciples through
prayer, formation,
and fellowship.



SERVE

Raise up leaders and
send people out
in mission.



Rooted in Christ. Growing in Faith. Branching Out in Love.



*They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship,
to the breaking of bread and the prayers. — Acts 2:42*



The Hearth Vision & Mission

A place to gather. A community to grow. A faith to live.

Foundational direction for The Hearth at St. Theresa Parish



A vision rooted in hospitality, belonging, formation, prayer, and service.

The Hearth is not simply a room project or a coffee project. It is a parish culture of welcome, relationship, and mission.

1. Purpose of This Document

This document gathers the heart of The Hearth into one clear vision and mission statement. It is meant to explain why The Hearth exists, what it is called to become, and how it can help renew parish life at St. Theresa Parish.

The Hearth is envisioned as a warm and welcoming center of parish life - a place where people do more than pass through a building. They are invited to stay, be known, grow in faith, and take part in the life and mission of the Church.

2. Vision Statement

The vision of The Hearth is to become the welcoming heart of St. Theresa Parish: a place where hearts are revived, disciples are formed, leaders are raised up, and people of all ages are gathered into deeper relationship with Christ and one another. Through hospitality, prayer, formation, fellowship, and service, The Hearth seeks to strengthen parish life and send people out to love and serve both the Church and the wider community.

3. Mission Statement

The mission of The Hearth is to strengthen and renew parish life by creating a warm and practical gathering place where authentic Christian community can grow and hearts can be drawn more deeply to Christ. Through hospitality, prayer, faith formation, pastoral care, fellowship, and outreach, The Hearth seeks to welcome people, form disciples, raise up servant leaders, help individuals and families discover their gifts, and send them out to serve both the parish and the wider community.

4. The Heart of the Vision

The Hearth is built around three simple movements:

Gather	Grow	Serve
Create a welcoming place where people of all ages feel seen, known, and invited into authentic Christian community.	Support prayer, faith formation, discipleship, healing, and leadership so hearts are renewed and people grow deeper in Christ.	Help parishioners discover their gifts, become servant leaders, and serve both the parish and the wider community.

5. Core Commitments

- **Hospitality:** Every person should feel welcomed, valued, seen, and included.
 - **Belonging:** Parish life should feel like a family where people are known, supported, and invited into authentic Christian community.
 - **Prayer:** The work of The Hearth should be rooted in dependence on God, openness to the Holy Spirit, and a desire for hearts to be renewed in Christ.
 - **Formation and Discipleship:** Faith should grow through Scripture, teaching, accompaniment, conversation, mentorship, and shared life.
 - **Pastoral Care and Fellowship:** The Hearth should create space for encouragement, healing, friendship, grief support, and meaningful connection across generations.
 - **Gifts and Leadership:** Parishioners should be encouraged to discover their gifts, grow in confidence, and become servant leaders within the life of the Church.
 - **Service and Mission:** The gifts of the community should be directed outward in love, serving the parish, the local community, and the wider mission of the Church.
 - **Unity:** The Hearth should support the parish, collaborate with existing ministries, strengthen communion, and help build a shared vision for parish renewal.
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6. How The Hearth Lives This Mission

The Hearth gives the parish a practical way to live the mission of hospitality, prayer, formation, accompaniment, and service. It creates space for ordinary conversations after Mass, small-group formation, senior gatherings, youth and family events, prayer groups, workshops, pastoral care, parish celebrations, leadership development, and community outreach.

The space is not meant to replace the church, the liturgy, or existing ministries. Rather, it supports them by creating a relational setting where people can meet one another, build trust, encounter Christ, discover their gifts, and take the next step in faith. In this way, The Hearth becomes a place where hearts can be renewed, disciples can be formed, leaders can be raised up, and people can be sent out to serve both the parish and the wider community.

7. Who The Hearth Serves

- Parishioners who need friendship, encouragement, belonging, and a reason to stay connected beyond Mass.
- Seniors and those experiencing loneliness, grief, or loss who need companionship, pastoral care, prayer, and meaningful community.
- Families, youth, and children who need healthy, welcoming parish connections where faith can grow across generations.
- Newcomers, visitors, and seasonal residents who need an easy and welcoming doorway into parish life.
- People seeking faith formation and spiritual growth who need opportunities for prayer, learning, conversation, mentorship, and discipleship.
- Parishioners discerning their gifts who need encouragement, support, and opportunities to grow into service and leadership.
- Ministry leaders and volunteers who need a place for planning, collaboration, formation, fellowship, and shared mission.
- The wider Wakaw community, which can encounter St. Theresa Parish as open, alive, generous, relational, and committed to serving others.

8. A Ministry of Parish Renewal

The deeper goal of The Hearth is parish renewal. A parish becomes more alive when people feel known, when faith is spoken about naturally, when prayer and friendship become ordinary, and when people are encouraged to discover their gifts, grow as disciples, and take their place in the mission of the Church. The Hearth can help create that kind of culture.

Revival is not only something that happens in large events. It can begin in simple, faithful spaces where people slow down, listen, pray, share burdens, ask questions, and encounter Christ through authentic community. In this way, The Hearth becomes a place where hearts can be renewed, disciples can be formed, leaders can be raised up, and people can be sent out to love and serve both the parish and the wider community.

9. What The Hearth Is - and Is Not

The Hearth is not about running a business, selling coffee, decorating a room, or creating another program. It is about helping St. Theresa Parish build a visible and practical culture of Christian hospitality, formation, prayer, fellowship, and service.

Coffee and refreshments may be offered freely as an expression of welcome, with a donation box available for those who wish to support the ministry. The deeper purpose is not profit, but hospitality, belonging, renewal, and mission.

The Hearth is a gathering place, a ministry support space, a gentle doorway for newcomers, a home for faith formation and fellowship, and a seedbed for discipleship, service, and servant leadership. It is a place where people can gather as family, grow in Christ, discover their gifts, and go forth as disciples to love and serve the parish and the wider community.

10. Closing Reflection

May The Hearth become a place where the warmth of Christ is experienced through welcome, conversation, prayer, formation, and shared life. May it help St. Theresa Parish become an even stronger community of worship, fellowship, discipleship, servant leadership, and service.

May those who enter The Hearth find a place to gather, a community in which to grow, and a faith that renews their hearts and sends them out to love and serve both the parish and the wider community.

***One trunk. Many branches. One mission.
Gather. Grow. Serve.***