



# CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES OF SOUTHERN NEBRASKA

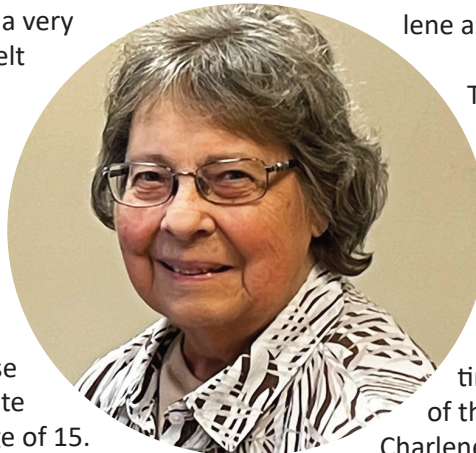
## Hope in the Good Life

October 2022

St. Therese of Lisieux/Charlene & Roy Diers

### Living the Little Way

Known as “The Little Flower,” St. Thérèse of Lisieux has become one of the most popular saints among the faithful. Thérèse was born on January 2, 1873 in France, and was the youngest of the five daughters of Louis and Zélie Martin- who are now saints as well. From a very early age, Thérèse felt called to follow her two oldest sisters and enter the Carmelite monastery in Lisieux. After much persistence and a personal appeal to Pope Leo XII, Thérèse entered the Carmelite monastery at the age of 15.



Little Way of St. Thérèse because she shows us that holiness is within the reach of ordinary people.

Do little things with great love. This is the lesson that so many have learned from St. Thérèse, including Charlene and Roy Diers.

The Diers have been married for 59 years and, like all marriages, they’ve leaned on their faith and each other to get through difficult times. 2014 was one of those difficult times.

Charlene says that in 2014, her father-in-law, brother-in-law and son-in-law passed away. “That really knocked me for a loop,” she said. For a while, she just stayed at home and never went out.

St. Thérèse defined her path to God and holiness as “The Little Way,” which consisted of child-like love and trust in God. She lived The Little Way by performing daily tasks and greeting people with love. She accepted assignments in the convent at Lisieux as ways of manifesting her love for God and others. On the surface, her life seemed so routine and ordinary, but it was steeped in love and service to God and those around her.

So many have been attracted to The

Eventually Charlene felt the Lord was telling her that “I’d better do something here” and decided to contact the Catholic Social Services office in Hastings, where she and Roy live. She figured that maybe she could volunteer to do some office work there, as she was a secretary before retiring after 40

*(Continued on back page)*

### CSS HASTINGS IMPACT SUMMER QUARTER 2022

**92**  
NEIGHBORS  
HELPED  
\$21,037 in rent, utilities,  
& other financial assistance

**71.18**  
TONS OF  
FOOD  
distributed across the  
16 county area we serve

**8611**  
MEALS  
SERVED  
feeding the hungry  
with Open Table

**66**  
FUEL  
VOUCHERS  
supporting travel  
to work & school

[csshope.org/impactreport](http://csshope.org/impactreport)



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## #HopeintheGoodLife

### *Living the Little Way (continued)*

years. Shortly after contacting CSS, a friend of Charlene's who was already volunteering at CSS told her to come down and help with putting together Thanksgiving baskets. Charlene felt the Lord was telling her "OK, you need to get down there." So she and Roy went and have been helping ever since.

The Diers love helping at CSS. "It just makes your mind happy!" Charlene says. She loves the words of Mother Teresa who said to "do something beautiful for God." She even quotes Mother Teresa by saying, "We are called to do humble work. There are people who can do big things but there are few people who will do the small things." She mentions there are many volunteers at the CSS Hastings site who do small things, and it's a great reward for them. Echoing St. Thérèse's Little Way, Charlene says, "I figure I can do the small things."

*Charlene and Roy Diers will be presented the Love of Christ award at the Bountiful Harvest celebration on Sunday, October 30th at the Hastings City Auditorium. Visit [csshope.org/bh22](http://csshope.org/bh22) for more information on how you can be a part of this year's Bountiful Harvest celebration.*



**Can't attend the Bountiful Harvest banquet?  
You can still bid on our online auction items!**

This year's Bountiful Harvest celebration will once again include an online silent auction, but you don't have to attend the banquet to take part. Bidding will open on Friday, October 21st at noon. Scan this QR code or visit [csshope.org](http://csshope.org) to register to bid once the auction opens. Keep checking back as we add exciting items. Bidding will close at the conclusion of the banquet on the evening of Sunday, October 30th. Good luck!

