

St. Therese Catholic Church

701 S. Charles G. Seivers Blvd.
Clinton, TN 37716

Bishop of Knoxville:

Most Rev. Bishop Richard Stika



Administrator:

Father Julius Abuh

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Secretary: Virginia Knowles

Bookkeeper: Regina Sowko

Church Office: 865-457-4073

Office Hours: 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m. (M-Th.)

E-mail: office@saintthereseclinton.org

Website: www.saintthereseclinton.org

Twitter: *SThereseClinton*

Facebook: *St Therese Catholic Church*

Deadline for bulletin submissions:

Wednesday afternoons by 1:30 p.m.

St. Therese Weekly Mass Schedule:

Saturday: Confessions 4:15-4:45 p.m.

Mass 5 p.m.

Sunday: 11:00 a.m.

Tuesday: 9 a.m. at St. Joseph, Norris

Wednesday & Thursday: 9 a.m.

Friday: 9 a.m. (9:30-10:30 a.m. Adoration)

Parish Pastoral Council:

Stan Bielecki, Chair

Olivia Kuhens, Secretary

Maureen McMyler

John Meersman

George Paynter

Sue Thais

Fr. Julius Abuh (ex-officio)

Finance Board:

Don McCarthy, Chair

Dave McCune

Monica Spurlock

Fr. Julius Abuh (ex-officio)

Regina Sowko (ex-officio)

Committee Chairpersons:

Communications: Olivia Kuhens

Hospitality: Fran Pisano, Maria Gee

Music Director: Mary Tuskan (865) 254-8346

Parish/Family Life: Dials Family

Parish Plant: Dave McCune

RCIA: Dave McCune (865-457-5015)

Religious Ed: Amanda Dials, Julie Keller

Social Action: Connie Mikeal

Spiritual Life/Liturgy: Jim Ferguson, Chantal Milne

Mission Statement

St. Therese Parish, joined together by the love of Christ, desiring to further the understanding of prayer and religious commitment, pledge ourselves to continue and improve our mission to Jesus, which is loving and serving the Lord and our neighbor.

Fr. Julius' Desk

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I welcome all of you to the First Sunday of Advent Year A, one of my cherished childhood memories! It's a time for Christmas carols, new clothing, sending and receiving Christmas gifts and cards at the same time eagerly anticipating serving at Christmas vigils as altar servers. It is that time in our liturgical calendar when we Catholics, join our fellow Christians in preparation for the birthday celebration of Our Lord. As we begin our walk once again through liturgical year A, the Church looks to salvation history of the past, our present redemption coming to fruition, and the future coming of Christ.

In our first reading, the prophet Isaiah depicts his vision of the nations on pilgrimage to Jerusalem: "All nations shall stream toward it; many people shall come and say: Come let us climb the Lord's mountain." This affirmed their faith in the one true God, the God of Jacob. In the second reading, St. Paul exhorts the Roman Christian community to prepare themselves for the Lord in his *Second Coming* by freeing themselves from their former pagan tendencies toward excessive drinking, sexual promiscuity, jealousy and rivalry. While we see outward signs of Christmas beginning in decoration of homes and work places, we need to challenge ourselves to that inward spiritual preparation and internal housekeeping, as we begin this year's Advent season. Praying with the Church through these weeks of Advent amplifies our souls as we come to celebrate the Nativity of our Lord.

In the Gospel reading, Jesus urges us with 'vigilant preparation' to meet Him as judge both at the end of our lives on earth and on the day of the Last Judgment when he comes in His Glory. Heeding his remarks on the unprepared people that were destroyed by the flood in the time of Noah, Jesus forewarns us to be vigilant and well-prepared at all times. We are invited to deepening conversion, by quiet contemplation on His nativity, through His daily graces in our lives, and within the great tools of the sacraments, the Word, and our faith community. Since Advent is a liturgy of waiting, we are summoned to be alert and watchful. With this season of celebration, it puts us on the doorstep of the joy that is coming! We do this as we freely offer our daily work to God, despite our many obstacles and daily challenges. Faith, hope, love, joy and our inward preparedness to receive the Lord, are some of the many gifts given in this season of Advent. Happy Advent Season!

Sacraments

Baptism: By appointment. Please call the church office at least 4 weeks prior to desired baptism date.

Reconciliation: Saturdays from 4:15-4:45 p.m.

Matrimony: A four-month preparation period in the Knoxville Diocese

In the Parish

FIRST FELLOWSHIP WEEKEND

There is NO first weekend fellowship in December.



PARISH ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY

Please plan on joining us for the Parish Annual Christmas Party on Sunday, December 18th at 6 p.m.

CCD ANNOUNCEMENTS

CCD children will have an altar server training class in the parish hall on Sat., Dec. 3rd at 11 a.m. There will be a pizza lunch provided afterwards. All children who have gone through First Communion already or are going through it this year will need to attend.



CCD will be participating in the **Clinton Christmas Parade**. Donations of candy to fill our buckets on the float, would be appreciated. We also need adult volunteers to walk alongside the float.

ALTAR SERVER TRAINING/MEETING

There will be an altar server training/meeting for all current altar servers or anyone interested in becoming an altar server on Saturday, December 3rd at 11 a.m. A pizza lunch will follow the meeting.



CHOIR PRACTICE



Christmas midnight mass rehearsals will be in the church from 6:30 to 8 p.m. on the following evenings: Dec. 1; Dec. 6; Dec. 15; Dec. 20. If you're not a regular choir member and want to sing, please contact Mary Tuskan at 254-8346 and leave a message. All singers and musicians welcome!

WHITE CHRISTMAS TREE



Years ago, St. Therese families put together a white Christmas tree covered in white ornaments donated by families. St. Therese Family would like to revive that tradition and add to the ornaments found from years past. Anyone interested may bring in a white ornament and leave it in a box in the parish hall. If there is a place to write your last name on the ornament, please feel free to do so! One per family.

Stewardship of Treasures on Weekly Offerings

Offertory Collection Last Week 11/20/16	Offertory Collection Last Year 11/22/15	Offertory Collection for Oct.'16	Offertory Collection for Sept.'16	Monthly Budget Fiscal Year 2016-17
\$2,572.00	\$3,033.00	\$17,288.00	\$11,645.00	\$15,000.00

Building Fund / Loan

Sept'16	Budget	+/- Month	Loan Sept 2016	Loan Sept. 2015
\$1,230.66	\$1,707.00	-\$476.34	\$146,299.45	\$160,397.70

FEASTS OF THE WEEK:

Wed., Nov. 30: St. Andrew
Sat., Dec. 3: St. Francis Xavier

MINISTRIES SCHEDULE:

December 5-6, 2016

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:

Saturday: R. Spurlock
M. Spurlock
S. Bieleski
Sunday: B. Bonham
O. Kuhens
L. McCune

Lectors:

Saturday: M. Haka
Sunday: M. McMyler

Altar Servers:

Saturday: TBA
Sunday: B. Milne
J. Boswell

Ushers:

Saturday: J. Klee
K. Lenz
Sunday: E. Clevestine
J. Clevestine

Cantor:

Saturday: T. Ferguson
Sunday: B. Job

Music:

Saturday: J. Bentz
Sunday: M. Tuskan

MASS INTENTIONS:

Wed., Nov. 30: Donald Trump by Max Kiernan
Fri., Dec. 2: Mary Ellen Liker by Sue Haese

Please contact the office for Mass intention requests.

Announcements and Information

WORK DAY APPRECIATIONS!

Thanks to everyone that came out on Saturday for the Parish Work Day. Especially Jim Ferguson, John Kelsey, Jon Boswell, Luke Bolton, Pete Chiaro, Becky Hatmaker, Pat Nageotte, Maureen McMyler, Olivia Kuhens, & Dave McCune.

Fr. Julius' village in Nigeria is building a much needed hospital. The hospital is in need of medical equipment. Dr. Fran Pisano is helping him collect items. If you have items that are new or fairly new because of maintenance in Africa, please consider donating to the hospital. Small items may be dropped off at Dr. Fran's office at Oak Ridge Pediatric Clinic or at the church office. For larger items, equipment (exam tables, beds, etc.), or questions, please contact Fr. Julius at 865-457-1317.



CHILDREN'S CHOIR

Jackie Bentz will lead a children's choir for the Christmas eve 4 p.m. liturgy. Children are invited to sing (if they are readers) but must attend the rehearsal on Sat., Dec. 10 from 10 to 11:30



SCRIPTURE PROGRAM

During this Advent season, the Thursday evening scripture program invites you to join us starting December 1st at 7 p.m. We meet in the church hall to read and discuss each upcoming Sunday's readings. This is a good way to prepare yourself for Sunday mass. If you have any questions please call Jean or Pete Chiaro at 865-742-5137.

Since there will be mass on Thurs., Dec. 8th at 7 p.m., we will meet on Wed., Dec. 7th at 7 p.m. Thank you.



TOYS , GAMES, BOOKS, COATS NEEDED

The Social Action Committee is collecting new and gently used toys & children's clothing for the Holiday Bureau of Anderson County. **The toys are given out on December 10th, so we need them as soon as possible.**



Coats for the Cold: They are also collecting gently used coats for Karm to distribute in the local area. This drive will start now and continue thru February.



IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Ralph Collins, Kathleen Edwards, George Elliott, Barbara Gregory, Mary Harris, Cathy Hundley, Pauline Landrum, Cathy Long, Ellen Saganich, Ron and Flo Schramm, Carol Stanley, Patrice Thompson.

DEATH IN THE FAMILY:

If you would like St. Therese to share in your grief in the event of a family member's death, please officially notify Father or the parish office. A Mass will be offered for the deceased at a date convenient to the family.

REMEMBER OUR MILITARY:

Andrew Adkins, Bradley Adkins, Adrian Agbanlog, Jesse Baker, Matthew Carroll, Jeffery Hatmaker, Jon-Michael Hatmaker, Brandon Parker, David Trent, and Lee Welty who are on military assignment.

***Names are added and taken off both **In Your Prayers** and **Remember Our Military** lists on a monthly basis. If you would like a name re-added, please call the office to resubmit the name for another month.*

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

November 30: Anthony Duncan
December 01: Maria Gee
December 02: Kelly Lenz
December 03: Lauren Pubillones
December 04: Margaret Lawrence

Call the parish office to add your birthday!





Bishop Richard Steika



The Diocese of Knoxville News

Holy Family Catholic Church's Parish Mission 2016 "The Spiritual Life"

With: Rev. Tim O'Toole, Outreach Priest from Cross Catholic Outreach.

When: Wed., Nov. 30 7p.m. Penance Service; Thurs. & Fri., Dec. 1 & 2, 11AM & 7PM

Where: 307 Black Oak Ridge Road, Seymour, Tn. 37865, 865-573-1203

Donate to St. Mary's Legacy Clinic by holiday shopping!

Visit <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/46-2331706> to find a page that tells you "Your shopping will support St. Mary's Legacy Clinic, Inc." Click on "start shopping", complete purchase and Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price to the clinic. Please remember to use this link **every time** you shop on Amazon. Thank you!

Come celebrate the Christmas season with us and learn more about the mission and impact of Catholic Charities of East Tennessee! Tickets are on sale now for the **2nd Annual 360 of Hope Holiday Luncheon** on Friday, December 9 at the Knoxville Marriott. Tickets are \$50 and include a holiday lunch, an opportunity for fellowship and networking, and an inspirational message from special guest speaker, Susan Packard. Susan is the co-founder of Scripps Networks and is the former COO of HGTV. As a special Christmas gift from CCETN, all guests will receive an autographed copy of Susan's book, *New Rules of the Game: 10 Strategies for Women in the Workplace*.

To purchase your tickets today: www.360degreesofhope.eventbrite.com

For more information: 865-684-1894 or events@cctn.org

All proceeds benefit: Catholic Charities of East Tennessee



Working to Reduce Poverty in America.

SLEEPING BAGS & MATS FOR THE HOMELESS

Donations of sleeping bags and sleeping mats are needed for the homeless! With the cooler evenings and approach of colder weather, please consider the donation of a combination sleeping bag and sleeping mat set (to help insulate against the cold ground) for the homeless. Small tents are welcome as well. Used (but clean) and new sleeping bags/mats are most welcome. Donations will gladly be accepted at the Chancery for distribution. Please contact Paul Simoneau psimoneau@dioknox.org or 865-584-3307 with question or donations.



CATHOLIC CRUISE TROPICAL CARIBBEAN

7 night cruise with Fr. Leo Pregarman Jan. 21-28, 2017 on Holland American's Eurodam out of Ft. Lauderdale (Port Everglades), Ports of Call: Key West, Fla., Grand Turk Island, Turks & Caicos, Amber Cove (Puerto Plata), Dominican Republic, Half Moon Cay, Bahamas (Cruiseline Private Island). Prices begin at \$1965.00 for two passengers and includes all port fees and taxes. Daily Mass offered. Deposits of only \$350 per person will reserve your cabin. Space is limited. For information or to register, contact Doug or Eileen at 860-399-1785/Doug@CatholicCruisesandTours.com

