

St. Therese Catholic Church

Bishop of Knoxville:
Most Rev. Bishop Richard Stika



Administrator:
Father Julius Abuh
Office: 865-457-4073
Rectory: 865-457-1317

E-mail: frjulius@saintthereseclinton.org
frjabuh@gmail.com

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,

This weekend's liturgy affirms the pinnacle of Christian ethics; it calls on us to reflect upon our responses to evil and the holiness of a loving, merciful God who does not exclude anyone from his resplendent love.

From Moses' era, in a troubled culture much like ours, we can take hope at Leviticus' portrayal of a profoundly tenderhearted God. "Take no revenge and cherish no grudge against any of your people." In this unique text, holiness is understood in a completely different way from former ritual prescriptions. In fact, notice the direct correlation between Leviticus and the Gospel text. In the second reading, St. Paul heartens the Corinthian Church and us, that we are the *temple* of God, and "If anyone destroys God's temple, God will destroy that person; for the temple of God, which you are, is holy." When someone commits a crime against *us*, they break both God's and man's laws; they may suffer the consequences of it either in this life or the next.

Our Gospel reading continues the Sermon on the Mount. To his disciples, Jesus refers to that timeworn Mosaic law of "an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth" – vindictiveness that may seem shocking to us in this culture. With His New Covenant, if we do not enter into the forgiveness process, we unwittingly give our offender too much control over our emotional, physical and spiritual life. This lack of forgiveness can ultimately be poisonous to us.

Thus, in our liturgy this weekend, Jesus brings a new and difficult commandment not only to love our enemies, but also to pray for those who willfully cause us suffering, hardship, unhappiness. Jesus wants us to limit all retaliation: He wants no part of it! Love our enemies!! Can Jesus be serious? Go the extra mile! Turn the other cheek! How illogical is this? I must tell you I struggle with this when Moslem terrorists attack our Nigerian Churches almost every Sunday, killing parishioners and destroying our sacred places. I question, "How many times must we turn our cheeks?" When will the Christian world be 'impoverished' enough to live according to Jesus' spiritual ethic?

Ultimately, we pray for the grace to cultivate a forgiving heart, where the Spirit can teach us love of our enemies, to forgive and pardon with a generous heart. This is the 'perfection' we all must journey to in order to grow in holiness.

Joyous weekend!

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

St. Therese is hosting a Lenten Mission titled, *“Returning to God with All of One’s Heart”* on March 11, from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. The mission will be led by **Carlos Taja, Assistant Director-Secretariat for Evangelization & Catechesis for the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops in Washington, D.C.** Using



the Lenten themes of conversion, prayer, forgiveness & confession, the mission

will focus on the following topics: losing your heart to sin, returning to God in Christ, and prayer & penance. There will be no charge but donations will be accepted. Since lunch will be provided, **please sign up** on the sheet in the parish hall for a head count. Contact Pete or Jean Chiaro for more information at 865-314-1214 or email chiarafamily@comcast.net.



RICE BOWL

Deacon Calzavara of Catholic Charities will be at St. Therese on Sat., Feb. 25 at the 5 p.m. Mass and on Sun., Feb. 26 at the 11 a.m. Mass to convey his appreciation of the church support of the Rice Bowl program during Lent.

ALTAR FLOWERS

This week’s altar flowers were donated by Peg Chase in loving memory of her husband, Mel Chase.



If you wish to donate altar flowers in honor of or in memory of a loved one, please contact Olivia Kuhens or the parish office at 457-4073.

FEASTS OF THE WEEK:

Tues., Feb. 21: St. Peter Damian
Wed., Feb. 22: The Chair of St. Peter the Apostle
Thur., Feb. 23: St. Polycarp

MINISTRIES SCHEDULE:

Feb. 25-26, 2017

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:

Saturday: K. Burns
 P. Chase
 C. Converse
 Sunday: C. Mikeal
 D. Nall
 G. Paynter

Lectors:

Saturday: S. Bieleski
 Sunday: M. McMyler

Altar Servers:

Saturday: TBA
 Sunday: J. Thais
 S. Thais

Ushers:

Saturday: M. Spurlock
 R. Spurlock
 Sunday: K. Stewart
 B. Bonham

Cantor:

Saturday: T. Ferguson
 B. Job

Music:

Saturday: J. Bentz
 Sunday: M. Tuskan

MASS INTENTIONS:

Wed., Feb. 22: +Chris Quinton by George & Tootie Krebs
Thurs., Feb. 23: +Jerry Inkrott & +Dave Nartker by Fr. Julius
Sat., Feb. 25: +Jim Borne by Joyce Borne
Sun., Feb. 26: +Florence O’Bryant by Pat Gambrell

Stewardship of Treasures on Weekly Offerings

Offertory Collection Last Week 2/12/17	Offertory Collection Last Year 2/14/16	Offertory Collection for Jan. 17	Offertory Collection for Dec. 16	Monthly Budget Fiscal Year 2016-17
\$3,424.00	\$3,002.00	\$13,562.00	\$12,004.00	\$15,000.00

Building Fund / Loan

Dec. 16	Budget	+/- Month	Loan Dec. 2016	Loan Dec. 2015
\$8,486.00	\$1,707.00	+6,779.00	\$141,022.63	\$156,467.67

Announcements and Information

SOCIAL ACTION

PANTRY COLLECTION

We are changing the way we help the food pantry by requesting specific items each month to meet more needs. During March, we are asking for paper products, such as napkins, paper towels, toilet paper, tissues and trash bags. A box is in the parish hall.



Food donations are still always welcome.

CCW RUMMAGE SALE

The CCW Rummage & Bake Sale will be Fri., & Sat., March 17 & 18. Set up will be Wed., & Thu., March 15 & 16. It has been rescheduled due to expected kitchen renovation. Please bring your treasures to the parish hall library during office hours or after mass. Watch your bulletin for more information & exact times.

Register for Kroger Community Rewards®

Please register and support St. Therese Catholic Church at krogercommunityrewards.com and select St. Therese organization #80264. A portion of your purchases will be returned to St. Therese Parish. Need help to register, please call 1-800-576-4377, option 3.

CCW WINE & CHEESE!

Tuesday, February 21 at 6:30 p.m. in the parish hall, the CCW will be having their monthly meeting and



a wine & cheese party. All women and their spouses are invited! Please bring a snack to share.

SENIOR MOMENTS

*Thu., Mar. 2 at 10 a.m.
Breakfast at Shoney's*

RSVP by Feb. 24

*Thu., Mar. 16 at 11:30 a.m.
Lunch at Harrisons*

RSVP by Mar. 10

RSVP to Pandy 865-659-6926



FILL A BOTTLE, SAVE A LIFE!

Choices Resource Center along with our parish Social Action Ministry asks that you take a baby bottle home and fill it with your loose change during the month of February. Bring



it back to the parish hall by February 28th and place it in the box provided. Thank you.

IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Paul Burkhardt, Ralph Collins, Kathleen Edwards, George Elliott, Pat Gambrell, Barbara Gregory, Mary Harris, Lydia Hatmaker, Cathy Hundley, Frank Iaroli, Cathy Long, Vicky McCarthy, 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, 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

Feb. 19: Mary Ellen McWilliams

Feb. 19: Laurel Ravenstahl

Feb. 19: Cheryl Scott

Feb. 23: Sue Haese

Feb. 25: Jean Meersman

Call the parish office to add your birthday!



Bishop Richard Stika



The Diocese of Knoxville News



St. Joseph School will be hosting their 18th Annual MARDI GRAS fundraising event on Sat., Feb. 25th from 6 to 11 p.m. Come and enjoy a fabulous dinner buffet (provided by Catering by Cox), silent and live auction,

music & lighting provided by the award winning Ogle Entertainment, and have fun with opportunities to win over \$6,000 in Door Prizes. Some of the Door Prizes will include a \$2,000 Tuition giveaway (good for St. Joseph School or Catholic High School), a \$1,000 CASH giveaway, and a year's supply of Chop House restaurant gift cards, among other prizes.

We expect this year's event to fill up fast so don't hesitate reserving your tables and/or purchasing your individual tickets (tickets are \$50 per person). For more information about tickets, sponsorships and donations, please contact Howie Sompayrac at 804-8977 or email hsompayrac@sjsknox.org. You can also purchase tickets through the SJS office by calling Tara Herber at 689-3424.

HELP THE HOMELESS



◆ Help 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 at psimoneau@dioknox.org or 865-584-3307 with question or donations.



Catholic Charities

Catholic Charities is looking for volunteers to help with our Earn While You Learn Program. We are looking for English and Spanish speaking volunteers. Training is provided and schedules are flexible. Our

center is located in downtown Knoxville across from the health department. If you would like to make a difference in the lives of those we have the privilege of serving, please contact Andrea Russell arussell@cctn.org or 865-212-4942.

FULMER TO SPEAK AT THE 32ND ANNUAL CATHOLIC CHARITIES EMERALD O'CCASION DINNER MARCH 9!!!

Mr. Fulmer won 152 games in 17 seasons as the head coach of the University of Tennessee football team. The highlight of his career was leading the Vols to the 1998 BCS national title with a win over Florida State at the Fiesta Bowl in Tempe, Arizona. Tickets to the dinner can be purchased online at cctn.org or by contacting Lisa Ingle at (865)684-1882 or lingle@cctn.org



PRESENTATION ON THE JOY OF THE GOSPEL

As part of our Diocesan V Encuentro events the Office of Hispanic Ministry and the Office of Christian Formation are organizing a presentation by Fr. David Boettner on Pope Francis's Apostolic Exhortation "Evangelii Gaudium" The Joy of the Gospel. It will be held on March 11, 2017 from 10 a.m. to 12 noon at St. Thomas the Apostle Church (1580 St. Thomas Way, Lenoir City, Tn 37772) Registration starts at 9:15 a.m. Donation: \$5.00 per person. After the presentation there will be a short video about the V Encuentro, discussion and sign-up sheets for the Sessions. The presentation will be in English with interpretation into Spanish. For more information, please call the Office of Hispanic Ministry at 865-637-4769.