

St. Therese Catholic Church

Bishop of Knoxville:

Most Rev. Bishop Richard Stika



Administrator:

Father Julius Abuh

Office: 865-457-4073

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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

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

With the intention of strengthening us on this Fourth Sunday of Lent, the Church invites us to "Laetare Sunday" (Rejoice!). Before we turn the corner and approach the darkness and sorrows of the Passion, today's austerity of Lent is briefly lessened. The mood is even one of rejoicing, since God liturgically opens our eyes to the way He sees.

With our First Reading from the Book of Samuel, we are all too familiar with the impulse to choose what visually appears exceptional. Did not this occur with Samuel initially as he prepared to select one of Jesse's sons as king? But lo, satisfying the Lord, Samuel favors the least esteemed of Jesse's sons, and young David is anointed king! This also develops within our Second Reading when St. Paul reminds the Ephesians of their interior need to "learn what is pleasing to the Lord," avoiding works of darkness, remaining in the light of Christ.

With today's Gospel reading, we see Jesus leaving the Temple in the company of His disciples. He comes upon a beggar – a man who has been blind from birth. Jesus says to His disciples, "He was born blind so that the works of God may be displayed in him ... I must carry out the work of the one who sent me" (Jn. 9:3-4). Is it possible that the blind man stands for all of us, made a new creation by Christ's saving power? In an action that recalls the creation story from Genesis when God forms man out of clay, Jesus spits on the ground, makes mud with the saliva, and with resolve, spreads the mud on the man's eyes, giving him the gift of sight.

Jesus thus teaches us the necessity of opening the eyes of the mind by faith; He cautions those who pretend to see the truth. Our eyes must be opened to the needs of others and we must be prepared to raise those who are down with the mercy of Jesus. For those who acknowledge their blindness, the Lord promises clear vision. At least the blind man knew he was blind while the clerically-oriented, law-educated Pharisees suffered from a blindness to being spiritually blind. With renewed prayer and Lenten sacrifices, may these last few weeks of Lent serve to heal our own interior blindness.

"If a man wishes to be sure of the road he treads on, he must close his eyes and walk in the dark."

- St. John of the Cross

Joyous Sunday!

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

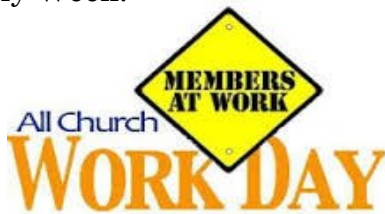
In the Parish

St. Therese is set to begin the remodeling of our kitchen. Fr. Julius has appointed Lou Lawrence to help raise the necessary funds for this project. Please co-operate with her and other volunteers on this project which will benefit all parishioners. Thank you.



PARISH WORK DAYS

Please reserve Saturday, April 1 and 8 for a parish work day beginning at 8 a.m. Your help is needed on these days for maintaining the parish and helping make it look its best for Holy Week.



Monthly Weekend

Fellowship

Please make plans to join us for First Weekend Fellowship gathering after each Mass next weekend. Parishioners are asked to bring finger foods to share with their church family. Drinks will be provided.

Seder Supper

St. Joseph and St. Therese are sponsoring a Seder Supper on Palm Sunday, April 9, at 4:00 in the St. Joseph Parish Hall. To share in the same meal that Jesus ate at the Last supper, sign up after Mass in the Parish Hall. Deadline for registration is this weekend.

CCW RUMMAGE SALE

Thank you to all who participated in donating items and helping with the sale. A total of \$2,111.92 was raised.

BAKED GOODS SOLD

During the Rummage Sale totaled a new record high of \$331.05

FEASTS OF THE WEEK:

None this week

MINISTRIES SCHEDULE:

April 1-2, 2017

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:

Saturday: M. Spurlock
R. Spurlock
A. Brown
Sunday: J. Chiaro
P. Chiaro
J. Anderson

Lectors:

Saturday: M. Haka
Sunday: Youth

Altar Servers:

Saturday: C. Helus
S. Helus
Sunday: Youth

Ushers:

Saturday: C. Tucker
D. McCarthy
Sunday: Youth

Cantor:

Saturday: T. Ferguson
Sunday: M. Tuskan

Music:

Saturday: J. Bentz
Sunday: M. Tuskan

We Thank Everyone Who Gives So Generously

| Offertory Collection Last Week 3/19/17 | Offertory Collection Last Year 3/20/16 | Offertory Collection for Feb. 17 | Offertory Collection for Jan. 16 | Monthly Budget Fiscal Year 2016-17 |
|--|--|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| \$2,837.00 | \$2,686.00 | \$11,711.00 | \$13,562.00 | \$15,000.00 |

Building Fund / Loan

| Jan. 2017 | Budget | +/- Month | Loan Jan. 2017 | Loan Jan. 2016 |
|------------|------------|-----------|----------------|----------------|
| \$1,764.00 | \$1,707.00 | +57.00 | \$139,778.80 | \$155,251.34 |

MASS INTENTION:

Wed., March 29: +Fr. Richard Mandoli by Leonard Nugent

Please contact the office for Mass intention requests.

Announcements and Information

STATIONS of the CROSS

Please attend *Stations of the Cross* every Friday at 6:30 p.m. during Lent. Each week will be led by a different committee or ministry group from St. Therese Parish.

FISH FRY FRIDAY

The Knights of Columbus will be holding their next Lenten Fish Fry at 5 p.m. on April 7th. Donations accepted.

EASTER FLOWERS

Donations for Easter flowers to beautify our church can be made in the parish hall. Please use an envelope provided on the table and place it in the box. The last day to donate in honor or in memory of a loved one is Palm Sunday, April 9.



PENANCE SERVICE:

A joint penance service will be held at St. Joseph Church at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, April 3.



PANTRY COLLECTION:

During March, paper products, such as napkins, paper towels, toilet paper, tissues, detergent, and trash bags. A box is in the parish hall. Food donations are still always welcome.

KROGER 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.



SENIOR MOMENTS

Thu., Apr. 6 at 11:30 a.m.

Lunch at Golden Oak Grill

RSVP by March 31

Thu., Apr. 20 at 11:30 a.m.

Lunch at Gondolier

RSVP by April 14

to Pandey 865-659-6926

IN YOUR PRAYERS:

John & Alice Barnes, Paul Burkhardt, Ralph Collins, Kathleen Edwards, George Elliott, Pat Gambrell, Barbara Gregory, Mary Harris, Lydia Hatmaker, Cathy Hundley, Cathy Long, Vicky McCarthy, Ellen Saganich, Ron and Flo Schramm, Carol Stanley, Patricia 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

Mar. 28: Jim Pubillones
Mar. 30: Martin Strones
Apr. 01: Joyce Borne

Call the parish office to add your birthday!



Bishop Richard Stika



The Diocese of Knoxville News



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.



Catholic Charities



SLEEPING BAGS & MATS FOR THE HOMELESS

Donations of sleeping bags and sleeping mats are needed for the homeless! Nights are still cold here in Tn., 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 PANAMA CANAL

Sail away on a 19 night Panama Canal cruise with Fr. John McGeean October 17-November 4, 2017 on Holland America's Eurodam out of Vancouver, Canada. Ports of Call: San Francisco, California; Puerto Vallarta, Mexico; Puerto Chiapas (Tapachula), Mexico; Puerto Quetzal, Guatemala; Puerto Corinto, Nicaragua; Puntarenas, Costa Rica; Panama Canal Full Transit; Exit Panama Canal at Cristobal; Enter Panama Canal at Balboa; Cartagena, Colombia; Ft. Lauderdale (Port Everglades), Florida. Prices begin at \$5494.00 for two passengers which includes all port fees and taxes. Daily Mass offered. Deposits of only \$600 will reserve your cabin. Space is limited. For further information or to register, contact Doug or Eileen at 860-399-1785/ Doug@CatholicCruisesandTours.com



Pastoral Juvenil Concert

Come and join us for this amazing concert for youth and young adults sponsored by Cristo Rey ministry in collaboration with the Pastoral Juvenil Hispana Diocesan ministry. The concert will take place in the gymnasium of the Sacred Heart Cathedral on April 29th from noon until 9 p.m. You can expect to hear great music from

Jon Carlo, El Coro El Sembrador, El Ministerio de Alabanza-Jesus el Rey Divino. The young Catholic preacher, Rafael Diaz, will also be joining us from Los Angeles to share his testimony. This concert will be in Spanish and is an event open to the whole family. Youth must come accompanied by a parent. The cost is \$10 per person or \$25 per family. Food will be available for sale. For more information, call Cristo Rey at 865-384-0175 or Brittany of the Pastoral Juvenil office at 865-776-9635. You can also visit dioknox.org. Don't miss this evening of praise and worship and fun!