

St. Therese Catholic Church

Bishop of Knoxville:
Most Rev. Bishop Richard Stika



Pastor:
Father Julius Abuh

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Secretary: Virginia Knowles
Bookkeeper: Christiana Seay
Church Office: 865-457-4073
Office Hours: 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m. (M-Thur.)
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 and Thursday: 9 a.m.
Friday: 9 a.m. (9:30-10:30 a.m. Adoration)

Parish Pastoral Council:

John Meersman, Chair
Anthony Papa, Vice Chair
Maureen McMyler, Secretary
George Paynter
Sue Thais
Jean Chiaro
Fr. Julius Abuh (ex-officio)

Finance Board:

Don McCarthy, Chair
Dave McCune
Monica Spurlock
Fr. Julius Abuh (ex-officio)

Committee Chairpersons:

Communications: Olivia Kuhens
Hospitality: Fran Pisano, Maria Gee
Music Director: Mary Tuskan 865-254-8346
Parish/Family Life: Jennifer Brown,
Deidra Hall
Parish Plant: Dave McCune
RCIA: Dave McCune 865-457-5015
Religious Ed: Amanda Dials, Julie Keller
Social Action: Connie Mikeal
Spiritual Life/Liturgy: 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,

A very special welcome indeed to all of our families and friends gathering here with us this week. As a nation, our Thanksgiving celebration coincides with the last Sunday of the Church's Liturgical year, the Solemnity of Christ the King. Our liturgy encourages us to recognize and honor Christ as the King of the Universe by enthroning him in our hearts, allowing him to take control of our lives, and to be actively worshipping Him at the threshold of each new day, "who lives and reigns forever and ever."

Ezekiel in the First Reading depicts God as the Good Shepherd ready to take control of his flock, as he describes the qualities of a benevolent shepherd that we find in our Lord. In the Second Reading, St. Paul presents Christ as the supreme ruler who raises the dead, to whom every other power and authority must eventually submit.

Today's Gospel from Matthew is profoundly central to our Christian service here on Earth. As he describes Christ the King coming in his Heavenly glory to judge us, let us recount how we have shared our genuine love and gifts with others. Jesus is our good shepherd providing, healing his sheep, and dwelling in those neighbors with whom we share our compassion. In the parable of the separation of the sheep from the goats at the Last Judgment, every person we give ourselves to, "whether the hungry, the thirsty or a stranger, naked, sick or in prison," is the risen Jesus. Our reward or punishment depends on our treatment of the risen Jesus in those most needy. Can you identify the Lord in those we call aliens?

Brothers and Sisters, as we close our liturgical year, can we begin to measure ourselves with these vital concerns: Have I been able to discover the hidden king and God in the suffering within and outside our immediate domain? Do I realize that Christ the King goes incognito in the physical and spiritual hunger of the homeless and destitute? Recall this abiding utterance: "Whatever you do to the least of my brethren, you do it unto me." Indeed, this is an invitation for us to embrace a suffering humanity much like St. Francis of Assisi and Blessed Mother Teresa, emboldening us to embrace the many hurting people. Little selfless acts begin in our homes – that tender generosity to one's immediate family members. This should be a starting model for how we extend Christ's caring beyond our little nucleus.

Observing this feast of Christ the King as we prepare for our Advent observance, we can eagerly allow these three questions to inform our actions, striving to keep this a holy, penitential, and charitable period in the Church's year.

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

Christmas choir rehearsals will be held on Wednesdays in the church from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

11/29; 12/6; 12/13; 12/20.

All are welcome! We need singers and instrumentalists of all ages for the 4:00 p.m. Family mass, Midnight mass and/or Christmas day. Please contact Mary Tuskan (254-8346) if you can offer your music talents for any or all of those liturgies! You must commit to attending those 4 choir rehearsals.

During Advent, our mass setting will change to the "Mass of Renewal" by Curtis Stephan. We will use this mass setting for the entire liturgical year. You can listen to "Mass of Renewal" on YouTube and familiarize yourself with the mass setting before Advent begins. (#864 to #872 in the current Breaking Bread hymnal).

St. Therese was blessed to be the only church in TN to win an OCP Parish mini-grant. The new Spirit and Song hymnals in the pews were purchased with the grant money. This new hymnal will help our parish make an even more joyful noise unto the Lord

Services & Masses at St. Therese Church

Penance Service: December 4th at 7 p.m. for both St. Joseph & St. Therese Parish.

Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception: Mass on Friday, Dec. 8th at 9 a.m. & 7 p.m.

4th Sunday of Advent: Dec. 24 Mass at 11 a.m.

Family Vigil for Christmas: Dec. 24 Mass at 4 p.m.

Midnight Mass: Dec. 24 Mass at 12 Midnight

Christmas Day: Dec. 25 Mass at 11 a.m.

WE THANK EVERYONE WHO GIVES SO GENEROUSLY

Offertory Collection Last Week 11/19/17	Offertory Collection Last Year 11/20/16	Offertory Collection for October 2017	Offertory Collection for September 2017	Monthly Budget Fiscal Year 2016-17
\$2,611.00	\$2,572.00	\$ 16,941.00	\$14,399.00	\$15,000.00

BUILDING FUND/LOAN /Last Week \$ 255.00

October 2017	Budget	+/- Month	Loan Oct. 2017	Loan Oct. 2016
\$ 1,400.00	\$1,707.00	-\$307.00	\$128,240.66	\$143,625.51

FEASTS OF THE WEEK:

Thu., Nov. 30: St. Andrew

MINISTRIES SCHEDULE:

December 2-3, 2017

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:

Saturday: D. McCarthy
C. Hundley
H. Bentz
Sunday: G. Paynter
J. Chiaro
P. Chiaro

Lectors:

Saturday: M. Spurlock
Sunday: T. Papa

Altar Servers:

Saturday: TBA
Sunday: I. Palacios
J. Palacios
T. Gudino

Ushers:

Saturday: M. Haka
J. Mantione
Sunday: M. Gudino
J. Gudino

Cantor:

Saturday: D. Stepp
Sunday: B. Job

Music:

Saturday: J. Bentz
Sunday: M. Tuskan

MASS INTENTIONS:

Wed., Nov. 29: Russell Haese by Sue Haese

Thu., Nov. 30: Mary Stasenko by Tom Baker

Fri., Dec. 01: +Maggie Adkins by Pat Gambrell

Sat., Dec. 02: Lois Szluha by Sue Haese

Sun., Dec. 03: +Lonnie Gambrell by Pat Gambrell

Announcements and Information

HOLIDAY FLOWERS: *There is a donation box and form in the back of church to place a donation for flowers for the Christmas season. Please note if your donation is in memory of or in honor of loved ones. Thank you for your generosity in making our church beautiful during the holidays!*

GIFT BEARERS: *The Spiritual Life committee is scheduling gift bearers for the first quarter of 2018 (January-March). If your family is interested in being a part of this important ministry, please speak to Chantal Milne or Olivia Kuhens, or add your information to the sign-up sheet in the parish hall.*

NEW MYPARISHAPP: *Our parish's new app is available for anyone with a Smartphone. Download the app for up-to-the-minute information regarding Mass times, cancellations, events, and other important info about the parish. See Olivia Kuhens for more information or help navigating the app.*

WILLS & TRUSTS: *Please remember your parish in your will or trust.*

THERE IS NO FIRST WEEKEND FELLOWSHIP DECEMBER 2 & 3 DUE TO THE SPECIAL EVENTS TAKING PLACE DURING THE MONTH OF DECEMBER.

COATS FOR THE COLD: *The weather has already turned freezing and coats, scarves, hats, gloves are again needed for those less fortunate. Please look in your closets for any warm items that you can donate to this very needed cause. A box will be provided for your donations in the parish hall. Items will be accepted thru February 2018. Thank you.*

SOCIAL ACTION: *December starts with items for Senior Center Christmas Baskets, such as small hygiene items like shampoo, perfume, gloves, socks, scarves, and food items to fill out the baskets;*

Toys for the Holiday Bureau and food drive continuing to the middle of December.

ALTAR SERVER MEETING: *Will be Saturday, Dec. 2 at 11 a.m. for all current servers and anyone interested in becoming an altar server. Current servers must attend. Pizza and drinks will be served.*

IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Kathy Baker, Paul Burkhardt, Ralph Collins, Helen Davis, George Elliott, Barbara Gregory, Lydia Hatmaker, Russell Haese, Tiara Householder, Cathy Long, Vicky McCarthy, Ellen Saganich, Ron & Flo Schramm, Carol Stanley, Alyssa Stimmler, 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, Zach Gillies, Jon-Michael Hatmaker, Brandon Parker, 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. Thank you.*

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK:

Nov. 27: Stan Bielecki
Nov. 27: Jerry Brown
Nov. 30: Anthony Duncan
Dec. 01: Maria Gee
Dec. 02: Kelly Lenz



Bishop Richard Stika



The Diocese of Knoxville News

From Bishop Stika: “Congratulations on a job well done!

St. Therese has exceeded the 2017 Bishop’s Appeal Goal!

Parish Goal: \$13,000.00 Total Committed: \$16,742.00

Collections to Date: \$14,130.00

Collections Needed to Reach Goal: \$0.00

360 OF HOPE LUNCHEON

Join Catholic Charities of East Tennessee at the 3rd Annual 360 of Hope Luncheon, hosted by WATE’s Kristin Farley featuring guest speaker Lt. Gov. Randy McNally on Thursday, December 7, from 11:30 a. m. to 1 p. m. at The Park Pavilion in Downtown Knoxville (525 Henley Street). For tickets or table host opportunities, please visit: <https://ccetn.org/event/knoxville-360-of-hope/>

Join the Dominican Sisters for an Advent Women’s Retreat Morning

Enter into the beautiful season of Advent with 8 am Mass, a talk by the Sisters, a panel discussion, fellowship with other women and concluding with a Eucharistic Holy Hour in the Sisters’ Chapel.

Who: All women aged 16 and older are invited

When: December 2nd, 2017

Where: Mass in the St. Mary’s (Oak Ridge) Parish Chapel, then St Mary’s Youth Center

Coffee will be provided. If you prefer to bring along a little morning tea to share, that would be lovely.

Diocese of Knoxville’s Office of Consecrated Life

Appreciation Dinner

Father Greg Cleveland, OMV, will be the keynote speaker at the **Diocese of Knoxville’s Office of Consecrated Life appreciation dinner on Friday, Dec. 15 from 6-8 p.m.** The dinner is sponsored by the Knights of Columbus. Father Cleveland is a noted retreat master and author. He will also lead a half-day mini-retreat on Saturday, Dec. 16 from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the All Saints Church Family Life Center in Knoxville. Mass will be celebrated and Reconciliation will be available. Tickets for Friday’s dinner are \$20 per person. Tickets for Saturday’s retreat, which includes lunch, are \$10 per person. Tickets can be purchased by contacting Sr. Mary Charles Mayer, Director of the Office of Consecrated Life at [865-862-5760](tel:865-862-5760) or by email at smarycharles@dioknox.org

Diocesan Men’s Retreat

Join men from across the Diocese of Knoxville for a day of learning and reflection on Dec. 9 at All Saints’ Catholic Church in Knoxville. Catholic speaker and evangelist Nic Davidson will be presenting on male Catholic identity. The culture has a message about what it means to be a man: Nothing. We disagree. It is time to claim and live your Catholic identity.

The day begins at 9 a.m. with Holy Mass with Bishop Richard F. Stika and will conclude at 2:30 p.m. Breakfast and lunch are included.

The retreat is free. Donations will be accepted to help cover speaker and food costs. For questions & to register contact Sr. Anna Marie at srannamarie@dioknox.org or 865-862-5763.

ATTENTION: HOLIDAY SHOPPERS

St. Mary’s Legacy Clinic is a registered charity able to receive donations through the Amazon Smile Program. You can do some great online shopping at Amazon.com and most of the time the prices are lower than what you would pay for the same product in the store. By visiting this link: <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/46-2331706> you will see a page that tells you “Your shopping will support St. Mary’s Legacy Clinic, Inc.” Simply click on the “start shopping” icon and after you complete a purchase Amazon will automatically donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible items to us. You may also visit our website to learn more: www.stmaryclinic.org Thank you for your support!