

St. Therese Catholic Church

Bishop of Knoxville:
Most Rev. Bishop Richard Stika



Pastor:
Father Julius Abuh
Office: 865-457-4073
Rectory: 865-457-1317
E-mail: frjabuh@gmail.com

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

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,

In prayerful preparation for our upcoming Lenten season, all priests from the Knoxville Diocese just convened in Gatlinburg for a partial week retreat. It was decided that this year's focus for Holy Week is to be on "Jesus, the suffering servant, Mirror of the Priesthood". This ever-constant aligning with the image of Jesus, the Supreme Holiness, emerges in our liturgy this weekend: namely, that we are called to become pure and holy in striving to allow Jesus to heal us.

Our First Reading from the Book of Leviticus points to the old law and their rigorous prohibitions about exposure to leprosy. Juxtapose this against Jesus' tender desire to physically reach out and heal the leper in our Gospel. Instead of having to undergo Jewish ritual purification, the leper is not only healed and released, but Jesus our Lord continues in purity. Herein lays bare the theme of freedom from bodily and ritual impurity as a sign of internal holiness from the old law. With this transformed call to holiness in the Second Reading, St. Paul exhorts us to do "everything for the glory of God," not only in our eating and drinking but especially in our kindness towards those unlike us.

We observe our Lord as he heals and liberates the leper, both from physical disease and the more painful inhumane social isolation and ostracism to which the lepers were subjected. This is the assurance that we can trust in the mercy of a forgiving God, that we can be restored to new and perfect spiritual health, free from any leprosy of sins. What futility to remain in this unclean state when the cure for this disease is so easily available to any sincere penitent. As always, the Church gives us various opportunities every day in the Sacrament of Penance – by appointment, every Saturday, and soon Ash Wednesday (Feb. 14). Remember, it is the beginning of fasting and abstinence. Sorry! No dispensation for Valentine's Day!

Essentially this Gospel could be a direct call to tear down the walls that separate us from others and build bridges of loving relationship. It is a clarion call to welcome those who may not look, think, or speak like us. It is a call to welcome AIDS victims, alcoholics, drug addicts, and those marginalized by the society. Indeed, it is a call to re-examine the barriers we have created and approach God with a heart that is ready to welcome and accept ALL!

"My greatest pleasure is to serve the Lord in his poor children rejected by other people."

— From the humble St. Damien of Molokai, known for his work among lepers

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

OFFICE CLOSED: *The parish office will be closed on Monday, Feb. 19, in observance of Presidents' Day. It will reopen 9 a.m. Tuesday morning.*

ROSARY RECITATION:
Join Chantal Milne in saying the rosary at 10:30 a.m. each Sunday of Lent beginning Feb. 18. All are welcome and encouraged to participate.



SECOND COLLECTIONS:
 • *Ash Wednesday for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe. Your assistance will provide resources to build faith and restore communities that were under communist rule for many decades.*

• *Next weekend (17/18) for the Black and Indian missions. Your donations help local African American and Native American Diocesan Communities throughout the U.S.*

OLD PALMS: *Please bring your old palms to the parish hall so they can be burned to make ashes for Ash Wednesday. Last day to bring in palms is Monday, Feb. 12.*

ASH WEDNESDAY MASS TIMES:

- 9 a.m. St. Therese
- 7 p.m. St. Therese
- 7 p.m. St. Joseph

STATIONS OF THE CROSS:

6:30 p.m. Fridays during Lent:

- **Feb. 16:** Knights of Columbus
- **Feb. 23:** Parish Council
- **March 2:** CCW
- **March 9:** RCIA
- **March 16:** CCD
- **March 23:** Spiritual Life
- **March 30:** (Good Friday) Fr. Julius

BISHOP'S APPEAL: *The Bishop's Appeal, "One Church for One Another," has begun. Mailings should have been received in the mail. Your gifts fund the operations of the diocese and ministries here in our parish. Please be generous. Our goal is \$13,000.00. With your support, we can reach this.*

WE THANK EVERYONE WHO GIVES SO GENEROUSLY

Offertory Collection Last Week 02/04/18	Offertory Collection Last Year 02/05/17	Offertory Collection for January 2018	Offertory Collection for December 2017	Monthly Budget Fiscal Year 2016-17
\$4,495.00	\$4,853.00	\$13,447.00	\$18,165.00	\$15,000.00

BUILDING FUND/LOAN /Last Week \$ 490.00

December 2017	Budget	+/- Month	Loan Dec. 2017	Loan Dec. 2016
\$1,492.00	\$1,707.00	-\$215.00	\$125,637.80	\$141,022.63

FEASTS OF THE WEEK:

Sat., Feb. 17: Seven Founders of the Order of Servites

MINISTRIES SCHEDULE Feb. 17-18, 2018

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:

Saturday: B. Hatmaker
 J. Korell
 D. McCarthy

Sunday: B. Hunt
 C. Mikeal
 D. Nall

Lectors:

Saturday: S. Bielecki
 Sunday: M. McMyler

Altar Servers:

Saturday: H. Bentz
 Sunday: W. Brown
 T. Gudino
 M. Lawrence

Ushers:

Saturday: M. Haka
 J. Mantione

Sunday: D. McCune
 P. Chiaro

Cantor:

Saturday: T. Ferguson
 Sunday: M. Tuskan

Music:

Saturday: J. Bentz
 Sunday: M. Tuskan

MASS INTENTIONS:

Sat., Feb. 10: +Mel Chase by Peggy Chase

Sun., Feb. 11: Arsenia Letizia birthday, by Ahmed and Yolanda Halouma

Wed., Feb. 14: Anthony and Patricia Papa (anniversary)

Thurs., Feb. 15: Diane Below, by Leonard Nugent

Fri., Feb. 16: +Leona Mrowka by Dcn. John and Vilma DeClue

Sat., Feb. 17: +Vincent Ruggers by Sue Haese

Please contact the parish office if you would like a mass intention in honor of or in memory of or for a special occasion.

Announcements and Information

FLU SEASON: *Due to the flu outbreak and strong recommendations from area health officials, Bishop Stika is directing all parishes in the Diocese of Knoxville to suspend the distribution of "precious blood" at Holy Communion until further notice. Also, no physical contact should be made in church during the exchange of the sign of peace. Thank you!*

SENIOR MOMENTS: *The group will meet at Austin Steak House on Thursday, Feb. 15. Please RSVP to Martha at 865-494-8530.*

SCRIPTURE PROGRAM: *All are invited to attend the Scripture program, which meets at 7 p.m. Thursdays in the parish hall.*

BIBLE STUDY: *Want a closer read of the Bible? Join this group at 10 a.m. Tuesdays in the parish hall. All are welcome to be part of these weekly talks.*

GRIEF SUPPORT MINISTRY: *We have a grief support ministry to visit the sick and be with the dying and help those who are grieving. Call the parish office or Joanne Anderson (865-809-1837) if you would like to join this support group.*

MEETINGS THIS WEEK

- **6:30 p.m. Monday, Feb. 12:** RCIA
- **6:30 p.m. Monday, Feb. 12:** Finance Council
- **11 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 17:** Altar server training
- **Noon Sunday, Feb. 18:** Spiritual Life

ADORATION: Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is 9:30-10:30 a.m. every Friday after the 9 a.m. daily Mass. Consider increasing your prayer life this Lenten season by spending an hour with our Lord. How one soul coming before the Blessed Sacrament can change the world: "One day before her holy hour, Jesus showed [Blessed] Dina Belanger a multitude of souls on the precipice of hell. After her holy hour, Jesus showed her the same souls in the hands of God. He told her that through holy hours of prayer, a multitude of souls got o heaven who oterwise would have gone to hell as one person can make up for what is lacking in the lives of others. Eucharistic Adoration is the outpouring of God's Divine Mercy on the world!"

<http://www.therealpresence.org/eucharst/tes/quotes10.html>

IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Kathy Baker, Paul Burkhardt, Ralph Collins, Helen Davis, George Elliott, Barbara Gregory, Lydia Hatmaker, Russell Haese, Cathy Long, Vicky McCarthy, Ellen Saganich, Ron and 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:

Feb. 15: Lorna Puryear
Feb. 16: Justin McLean
Feb. 17: Sarah Boswell

If you would like your birthday in the bulletin, please contact the parish office.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

- Fr. Bill Kiel will be coming to St. Therese for his annual healing Masses at 7 p.m. Monday, April 16, and Tuesday, April 17.
- Sunday School will have a Pajama Party at 6 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 21.





Bishop Richard Stika



The Diocese of Knoxville News

- **MARDI GRAS:** St. Joseph School will be hosting its 19th Annual Mardi Gras fundraising event 6-11 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 24, in the French Quarter (SJS Gym & Performing Arts Center). There will be a dinner buffet provided by Wilson Catering, silent and live auction, door prizes, music, and dancing provided by Ogle Entertainment. Door prizes include \$2,000 worth of tuition giveaways (good for Saint Joseph School or Catholic High School), a cash giveaway, and a year's supply of Chop House restaurant gift cards, among other prizes.

- **WOMEN OF VIRTUE RETREAT:** Please join Sister Anna Marie McGuan, RSM, Director of the Office of Christian Formation, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 24, at All Saints Church, 620 N. Cedar Bluff Road in Knoxville for a day of prayer and reflection on feminine models of virtue in Sacred Scripture. The day will open with Mass celebrated by Bishop Richard F. Stika. This retreat is free of charge. Breakfast and lunch included. Please RSVP to reserve your place. Go to "Events" at dioknox.org to register. For questions, contact Sister Anna Marie at srannamarie@dioknox.org.

- **FULTON SHEEN SOCIETY FOR YOUNG FAMILIES AND COUPLES:** For all families and couples in their 20s, 30s, and 40s. Join us 6-8 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 24, at Matt and Christine Blair's house, 3701 Garden Drive in Knoxville to hear guest speaker Sr. Anna Marie McGuan, RSM, speak on the Gospel of Mark, Part II. Matt and Christine Blair offer a monthly meeting at their home for families and couples who are interested in learning more about their faith and getting to know other families in the parish. The meetings are always 6-8 p.m. on the last Saturday of each month with a guest speaker who provides spiritual education on a particular topic. The talks are followed by food and fellowship. Free childcare is provided during the talk. Contact Christine at christine.h.blair@gmail.com or (865) 356-2017 if you are interested in learning more about this group.

- **YOUNG WOMEN'S HIGH SCHOOL RETREAT:** Who am I? Who has God created me to be? The Dominican Sisters of St. Cecilia and University of Tennessee Vol/Catholic Sisters present this retreat March 2-4 at St. Thomas the Apostle Church in Lenoir City to help girls in grades 9-12 nurture their relationship with Christ and turn to Him for answers. \$40 registration fee. Register by Feb. 21. Visit dioknox.org under "Events" for forms and more information.



'COME BACK TO THE LORD WITH ALL YOUR HEART'

In his message for the upcoming Lenten season, Pope Francis urged people to renew their enthusiasm for the faith, using this season of prayer, fasting and almsgiving as an opportunity to stoke the flame of charity in their heart.



"Above all, I urge the members of the Church to take up the Lenten journey with enthusiasm, sustained by almsgiving, fasting and prayer," the Pope said in his message.

- **RETRouvaille WEEKEND:** Twenty-five percent of surveyed couples say they are happily married. For everyone else, there is Retrouvaille. Retrouvaille helps couples rebuild their marriages. For confidential information about or to register for the next program beginning with a weekend on March 2-4, 2018, call 800-470-2230 or 615-523-0631, email nrv3043@gmail.com, or visit our website at www.HelpOurMarriage.com.

- **A CONVERSATION WITH THE CARDINALS:** His Eminence Cardinal Dziwisz, who served as Pope St. John Paul's personal secretary for 40 years, will recount and reflect on one of the most dramatic moments in world history when he joins Bishop Stika and three other prominent Catholic prelates for *Conversation with the Cardinals* to discuss the assassination attempt on the pope in 1981 and his eyewitness account that day. The event, 7 p.m. Sunday, March 4, at the new Cathedral of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, is free and open to the public. For more information, go to www.dioknox.org.

- **AN EMERALD O'CCASION:** The 33rd annual Catholic Charities dinner "An Emerald O'ccasion," will be 5 p.m. Thursday, March 22, at The Knoxville Marriott (501 E. Hill Avenue). The evening will include the presentation of the 7th annual "Creating Hope" award to a deserving individual or organization for their outstanding service to Catholic Charities of East Tennessee. Vallie Smith Collins will be the featured speaker. To register or for more information, visit ccetn.org or call Ashley Pacilio at 865-963-4727.