

St. Therese Catholic Church

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

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

Secretary: Maureen Romanoski

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](https://twitter.com/SThereseClinton)

Facebook: [St Therese Catholic Church](https://www.facebook.com/StThereseCatholicChurch)

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,

On this Fourth Sunday of Lent, we celebrate *Lætare* (Rejoice!) Sunday like we do *Gaudete* Sunday in Advent. Using our lighter-spirited rose-colored vestments today instead of the sober violet, we notice a change in tone, hinting at the Church's joyful anticipation of Our Lord's Resurrection. There is some association with the custom taken from the 8th century, of golden roses being gifted by the Pope to various Marian shrines.

In Chronicles II, we learn that the Israelites' deliverance from the Babylonian captivity comes from a place nobody expected. Fearing extinction yet in a twist of fate, they were remarkably saved when God sent a *pagan* conqueror, King Cyrus of Persia, to enable the Jews to rebuild Jerusalem and the Temple. In the Second Reading, St. Paul tells us that it is not by personal achievement but by the grace of God through Christ Jesus that God grants us eternal salvation.

Today we read one of my favorite bible verses: *For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life...*" (Jn 3:16). Under the cover of darkness, the Pharisee Nicodemus comes to Jesus, and the two engage in a long and friendly religious discussion. Jesus explains the necessity of believing that he is the Son of God! Alluding to the story of Moses and the brazen serpent, we observe Jesus' fairmindedness towards Nicodemus in sharing God's promise to save mankind from its sins, which parallels His being 'lifted up' in crucifixion and death.

Therefore, how important it is for us to love the cross, which does not denote shame or defeat but indeed is the symbol of God's forgiveness and merciful love. As a vital reminder, the crucifix invites us to generosity and compassion, in loving the other, inspiring us to remove their suffering and misery. Hence, in tenderness for the cross, we can both wear its image and carry our own inter- or daily cross with joy. This is because God's love is unconditional, universal, forgiving, and merciful. Let us make a heartfelt attempt to include these qualities towards sharing our love with others this Lent, rejoicing in the love of the Lord always! Curiously, the most important part of recognizing our redemption may be found in the First Reading. We all want our lives to go well, but sometimes we look in the wrong direction. The Israelites were in a bad place, exiled in Babylon, but today's Gospel tells us that not only deliverance, but redemption, comes from a place none of us expected. Be careful who you want out of your life!

Be joyful at all times!

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 six-month preparation period in the Knoxville Diocese

In the Parish

FISH FRIES: *Don't forget to enjoy our Fish Fry Fridays every Friday of Lent beginning at 5 p.m. There is a sign-up sheet in the parish hall if you can help set up, bring food, serve, or clean up. All help is welcome. Thank you to all our volunteers and attendees so far this Lenten season.*

DONATIONS: *Social Action is collecting personal toiletries (soap, shaving cream, toothpaste, deodorant, etc.) and non-perishable food items for the month of March. Please leave donations in the designated box in the parish hall.*

LAPTOP DONATIONS: *Father Julius is in need of gently used laptops to donate to members both in and outside our parish community. If you have any spares to give away, please bring them to Mass or drop them off at the parish office.*

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.*

HOLY THURSDAY: *At the Mass of the Last Supper (7 p.m. March 29), Fr. Julius will*

STATIONS OF THE CROSS:

*6:30 p.m. Fridays
during Lent:*

- **March 16:** CCD (for children and adults)
- **March 23:** Spiritual Life (with musical presentation by the choir)
- **March 30:** (Good Friday) Fr. Julius

wash the feet of twelve parishioners. If you are interested in being one of those twelve, please add your name to the list on the sign-up tables in the parish hall.

ALTAR SERVERS: *A training session will be held 11 a.m. Saturday, March 24, specifically for those serving at any Mass during Holy Week. Lunch will be provided.*

EASTER FLOWERS: *Donations for Easter flowers to beautify our church may be made with the envelopes provided on the sign-up tables in the parish hall. The last day to donate in honor of or in memory of a loved one is Palm Sunday (March 25).*

FEASTS OF THE WEEK

Sat., March 17: St. Patrick, patron saint of Ireland; missionary credited with converting Ireland to Christianity in the AD 400s

MINISTRIES SCHEDULE

March 17-18, 2018

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:

Saturday: D. McCarthy
M. Spurlock
R. Spurlock

Sunday: B. Hunt
L. McCune
C. Mikeal

Lectors:

Saturday: J. and J. Meersman
Sunday: G. and J. Paynter

Altar Servers:

Saturday: TBD

Sunday: T. Gudino
K. Godfrey
S. Godfrey

Ushers:

Saturday: M. Haka
J. Mantione

Sunday: A. Yonce
E. Yonce

Cantor:

Saturday: T. Ferguson
Sunday: M. Tuskan, Choir

Music:

Saturday: J. Bentz
Sunday: M. Tuskan

MASS INTENTIONS:

Weds., March 14: Kevin Korell by Doris and Joanne Korell

Thurs., March 15: Allen and John Coronel by Zynthea Thomas

Fri., March 16: +Thelma Czarnecki by Peg Chase

Sat., March 17: +Thelma Czarnecki by Fr. Julius

Sun., March 18: For the intentions of Paul and Dolores Height

WE THANK EVERYONE WHO GIVES SO GENEROUSLY

Offertory Collection Last Week 03/04/2018	Offertory Collection Last Year 03/05/2017	Offertory Collection for February 2018	Offertory Collection for January 2018	Monthly Budget Fiscal Year 2016-17
\$4,283.00	\$4,016.00	\$4,283.00	\$4,016.00	\$15,000.00

BUILDING FUND/LOAN/Last Week \$225.00

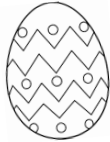
December 2017	Budget	+/- Month	Loan Dec. 2017	Loan Dec. 2016
\$1,492.00	\$1,707.00	-\$215.00	\$125,637.80	\$141,022.63

Announcements and Information



PENANCE SERVICE: A joint penance service will be held at St. Joseph Church for both parishes at 7 p.m. on Monday, March 19.

EASTER EGG HUNT: The annual Easter Egg Hunt will be after the 11 a.m. Mass on Sunday, April 1. The event is open to all children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews, and friends age 10 and younger. Stop by the sign-up tables in the parish hall to see how you can help by donating toward the egg hunt or small reception after Mass.



SPRING CLEANING: Your help is needed for the parish spring work week. It is called a "work week" this year because those who sign up can decide within their groups which days and times are best for them to do the work. (You are NOT



MEETINGS THIS WEEK:

- **6:30 p.m. Monday:** RCIA (no meetings March 19 or March 26)
- **6:30 p.m. Monday:** Finance Council
- **6:30 p.m. Tuesday:** Parish Pastoral Council
- **7 p.m. Thursday:** Scripture Program
- **NO SUNDAY SCHOOL** on Sunday, March 18

expected to work all week.) The work has been divided into six categories. You are requested to sign up for one of the categories. All supplies will be furnished. If there are no volunteers, the work will not be done.

CHOIR PRACTICE: If you are interested in singing at any Mass during Lent, Holy Week, or on Easter, then join our musicians. Practice will be held 6:30-8:30 p.m. every Wednesday beginning Feb. 28.

LOOKING AHEAD:

- There will be a CCW bake sale after both Masses on Saturday, March 24, and Sunday, March 25. Bring your sweet tooth!
- Fr. Bill Kiel will be coming to St. Therese for his annual healing services after Masses on Monday, April 16, and Tuesday, April 17, at 7 p.m. each day.
- State of the Parish: Father will deliver his annual speech on May 2.



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, 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, Zach Gillies, Jon-Michael Hatmaker, Brandon Parker, and Lee Welty who are on military assignment.

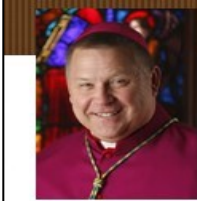


Names are added and taken off both **In Your Prayers and **Remember Our Military** lists on a monthly basis. If you would like a name re-added, please call the office to resubmit the name for another month. Thank you.

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK:

March 12: Tootie Krebs
March 16: Patricia Gambrell
March 17: Ahmed Halouma
March 18: Anthony Maimone
Sally R.

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



Bishop Richard Stika



The Diocese of Knoxville News

• **HOLD ME TIGHT WORKSHOP:** This 2-day workshop (10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday, March 17, and 1-6 p.m. Sunday, March 18) at St. Therese of Lisieux Church in Cleveland, Tenn., is a positive, research-based program for all married couples that want to strengthen and deepen their relationship and for premarital couples that want to prepare and learn how to make love last for a lifetime. You will take home tools that you can keep using in your relationship. The workshop will be facilitated by Lee University's Marriage and Family Therapy Interns. Cost is \$30. Preregistration is required by Saturday, March 10. Contact Alicia Bradshaw at abrads02@leeu.edu or 423-299-3688 to register or for more information.



• **PILGRIMAGE TO IRELAND:** The deposit deadline for this trip has been extended to March 20. For a full description of the itinerary, contact Marian Christiana at 423-892-2310 or mchristiana@dioknox.org. Join Pope Francis in Dublin, Ireland, for the World Meeting of Families and then tour the Emerald Isle and the Land of Saints and Scholars with Fr. Mike Nolan. Departure is Aug. 21, and return is Sept. 1. The itinerary includes a Mass with Pope Francis and visits to many holy sites such as Glendalough, the Rock of Cashel, the Cliffs of Moher and Our Lady of Knock Shrine. Mass will be offered daily.



• **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 cctn.org or call Ashley Pacilio at 865-963-4727.

• **TEA WITH THE RELIGIOUS SISTERS OF MERCY:** All young women 18 and older are invited to a mid-morning tea with the Religious Sisters of Mercy on Saturday, March 24, from 10:45 a.m.-noon at Mary, Mother of Mercy Convent, 6832 S. Northshore Drive in Knoxville. Please RSVP to Erica Pereira at epereira@dioknox.org or 865-584-3307.



• **COUPLE PRAYER SERIES: TOGETHER WITH JESUS:** Do you want to learn an intimacy that can change your marriage? Join us for the upcoming Couple Prayer Series and

learn how to more fully enjoy the life-changing intimacy of praying together as husband and wife. Shawna and Warren Hunt and co-facilitators Rob and Treasa Valente will present the series at All Saints Catholic Church from 6-8 p.m. beginning Sunday, April 8. The series is six consecutive Sunday evening sessions through Sunday, May 20 (skipping Mother's Day on Sunday, May 13). Childcare, pizza and drinks will be provided. For more information or to register, contact Matt and Christine Blair at (865) 356-2017 or christine.h.blair@gmail.com. When registering, please include the number and ages of your children for nursery capacity purposes. Registration is limited and ends Monday, April 2.

• **PILGRIMAGE TO OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE AND SHRINES OF MEXICO:** Led by Father Steve Pawelk, this pilgrimage will travel to several shrines throughout Mexico from April 9-16, including the Santuario de Santo Toribio Romo, the Basilica of the Virgin of San Juan de Los Lagos, the Guanajuato statue of Cristo Rey, and mission churches of St. Juniper Serra. The pilgrimage will conclude in Mexico City, with a visit to the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe, and Tlupetlac, the site of the fifth apparition to Juan Diego's uncle, Juan Bernardino. Cost is \$1,990. For more information, registration forms, and schedule of events, contact Lisa Morris at 865-567-1245 or lisaam@select-intl.com or go to dioknox.org/calendar.



• **HAIL MARY, FULL OF GRACE: MODEL AND GUIDE FOR WOMEN TODAY:** All are welcome to the 2018 Women's Convention on April 12-14. This event, sponsored by the Knoxville Diocesan CCW, will be at St. Stephen Catholic Church in Chattanooga. Sign-up by March 17 for early bird registration. For more information and registration materials, visit us at www.kdccw.org.

• **FIAT RETREAT:** The Diocese of Knoxville invites all young adults (18 and older) to the Fiat Retreat, which focuses on the topics of discernment and vocation. The retreat begins 6:30 p.m. Friday, May 18, and ends Sunday, May 20, with Mass at 2 p.m. in the Christ the Prince of Peace Retreat Center in Benton, Tenn. Cost is \$40. This retreat will be in English. Another retreat will focus on the same topics in Spanish on April 13-15. To register, contact Erica Pereira at epereira@dioknox.org or register online: fiatyongadultretreat.eventbrite.com.