



Saint Therese Parish

9525 W Bluemound Rd, Milwaukee, WI 53226

Phone (414) 771-2500 ♦ Fax (414) 771-2410

sainttheresemilwaukee.org ♦ info@sainttheresemilwaukee.org

We are St. Therese Catholic Church, a community of believers, who walk together by faith in Christ Jesus, and minister in the Little Way of St. Therese, as we strive hand-in-hand to live as God's people.

December 13th, 2009

Parish Staff

Parish Director

Dr. Alexandra Guliano ext. 14
arguliano@sainttheresemilwaukee.org

Assisting Priest

Rev. Hugh Birdsall, SDS

Help-out Priest

Rev. Norm Oswald

Administrative Assistant

Courtney Falk ext. 11
courtney@sainttheresemilwaukee.org

Bookkeeper

Lisa Vallone ext. 17
vallonel@sainttheresemilwaukee.org

ChristCare Minister

Barbara Heinz ext. 13
bhheinz@sainttheresemilwaukee.org

Pastoral Musician

Elterine Jankowski-Biggers ext. 15
jankowe@sainttheresemilwaukee.org

Sterling Biggers, Parish Musician

Coordinator of Parish Catechesis

Cathy Smith ext. 20
cathy.smith@sainttheresemilwaukee.org

Building Services Coordinator

Denise Dostalek ext. 16
denise@sainttheresemilwaukee.org

Ministers

All the Members of the Parish

Parish Emergencies

(414) 771-2500 — listen for instructions

Mass Schedule

Saturday: 5:00PM
Sunday: 8:00AM & 10:00AM
Tuesday: 8:00AM

Liturgy of the Word with Communion:

Thursday, Friday: 8:00AM

See inside for Holy Day Schedules



John answered them all, saying, "I am baptizing you with water, but one mightier than I is coming. I am not worthy to loosen the thongs of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire." — Lk 3:16

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.
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Reconciliation: 4:15PM — 4:45PM
1st Saturday of the Month

Anointing of the Sick:
2nd Full Weekend of the Month
Following Each Mass

All Other Sacraments:
Please call the Parish Office
Preparation can take six months or more

Office Hours

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday:
8:30AM — 4:00PM
closed 12:00PM — 12:30PM

Wednesday:
12:00PM — 7:30PM
closed 4:00PM — 4:30PM

Friday: 8:30AM to 12:00PM

From the Desk of the Parish Director

Over the years, our parish has been blessed with several faithful staff members, who have made significant contributions to St. Therese Parish. One of these is Barbara Heinz, who has served as ChristCare Minister for over eleven years. Recently, Barb decided to retire (once again!), and will do so effective December 18th.

On behalf of our parish community, I thank Barb for her fruitful ministry to many people whose lives she has touched through the various groups—55+ Social Club, Funeral Lunch Ministry, Prayer Network, Communion to the Sick & Homebound, and more. She has also been an integral member of our Parish Staff. Thankfully, Barb will remain as an active parish member, as she and her family have strong roots in the parish. Barb and her late husband, Jerry, hold the distinction of being married in Heck Hall at the time when the church was under construction!

Our parish will formally thank Barb and wish her well by celebrating a special hospitality after all masses in our “Gathering Space” at the Bluemound side of the church. We need volunteers to help serve and clean up afterward. If you would like to help, please contact Dr. Guliano by phone or email, no later than noon on Wednesday, December 16th.

The ChristCare ministries are important for our community. It is our intention to continue these ministries, building on their foundation, through volunteers. Please note that each of these ministries will be explained in future bulletins, and there will be many opportunities to volunteer your time and talent in these areas.

Please make it a point to thank Barb next weekend or whenever you can. We give thanks for her!

Advent blessings and peace to you,
Dr. Alexandra Guliano



In Advent, Christians relive a dual impulse of the spirit; on the one hand, they raise their eyes towards the final destination of their pilgrimage through history, which is the glorious return of the Lord Jesus; on the other, remembering with emotion his birth in Bethlehem, they kneel before the Crib. The hope of Christmas is turned to the future but remains firmly rooted in an event of the past. In the fullness of time, the Son of God was born of the Virgin Mary: “Born of a woman, born under the law”, as the Apostle Paul writes (Gal 4:4). —Pope Benedict XVI

Advent is the season of waiting. Today embrace the opportunities you have to wait joyfully on others, including the Lord.

Please remember the following in your prayers:

Lenore Black, Gene Brah, Anna Daewel, Tom Fera, Georgina Guevara, Pauline Gutmann, Mary Ann Hesselbein, Ben Hoener, Andy Islo, Garnet Jankowski, Ken Knollenberg, Marcella Kozuh, Tom Kreuter, Ann Lackovic, Frank & Raquel Lemanski, Sarah Luck, Charlotte Meeks, Chris Melloch, Laverne Mucci, Michelle Muschelewicz, Gerry Roberts, Sylvia Schaffer, Gladys Shafer, Carlene Siever, Susan Sinks, Marion Stabo, Mary Stoke, Robert John Swiderski, Harold Vanden Heuvel, Merle Weber, Bob Wilcox, Brian Wissing

Help Needed for Reception for Barb Heinz

Please help our parish thank Barb Heinz for her service to our parish by helping at hospitality after all masses the next weekend, December 19th/20th. Barb has decided to retire, effective December 18th. To volunteer, please contact Dr. Guliano in the Parish Office.

Altar Server Rehearsals for the Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Masses

Altar Servers who have signed up to serve on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day are asked to attend a rehearsal in the church on Monday, December 21st at 6:30PM.

Wednesdays with the Word

Wednesdays with the Word take place from 6:45PM—7:30PM in the St. Therese Room on December 2nd, 9th, 16th, and 23rd, not the 30th. All are welcome to join in breaking open the Word of God for the upcoming Sunday.

Items in Lost and Found Closet

The Lost and Found Closet in the hallway outside the sacristy has several items. Among these are two small keys with the number “251” engraved on them and a Bluetooth over the ear device. If these belong to you, or if you think you may have left any other items in church, please check the Lost and Found closet. It is labeled accordingly.

Faith In Our Future Capital Campaign Update

With our sixth transfer of funds, we were able to reimburse our Parish Reserves the \$4620.63 that we used for start up expenses. Beginning with the December 2009 transfer (our seventh transfer), we will begin saving for our next project—replacing the water heater for our building, estimated at \$6,000. Thanks to all who have contributed to our FIOF Capital Campaign. Pledge cards are available on the tables at the entrances of the church.

Christmas and Holyday Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve, December 24th

- ◆ 3:45PM: Intergenerational Family Mass beginning with a presentation entitled “Christmas Around the World”
- ◆ 10:00PM: Night Mass beginning with a Choir Concert

Christmas Day, December 25th

- ◆ 8:00AM Mass
- ◆ 10:00AM Mass

New Year's Day, January 1st, 2010

- ◆ 9:00AM World Day of Prayer for Peace/Solemnity of Mary Holyday Mass

Congratulations

To Angie Bunzel, a new Altar Server, who served mass for the first time last week.



Parish Events for the Week

Sunday, December 13th—Sharing Weekend

After Masses Christmas/Advent Library Display (LIB)
 8:45AM Sunday School (ALL)
 9:10AM St. Therese Choir (CH)
 10:00AM Children's Liturgy of the Word (CH)
 5:30PM Teen Session (MC)

Monday, December 14th

6:30PM Christian Formation (STR)

Tuesday, December 15th

6:45PM Finance/Administration (MC)

Wednesday, December 16th

11:30AM 55+ Christmas Luncheon (OFFSITE)
 6:45PM Wednesdays with the Word (STR)
 7:30PM St. Therese Choir (CHP)
 7:30PM Praise Band (CH)

Thursday, December 17th

8:30AM—6:30PM Prayer Day (CHP)

Friday, December 18th

No Meetings Scheduled

Saturday, December 19th

4:15PM Canticle Choir (CH)

Sunday, December 20th

9:10AM St. Therese Choir (CH)
 11:00AM Decorating the Church (CH)

CH=Church, CHP=Chapel, GLP=God's Littlest Place, GN=Good News Gathering Place, HH=Heck Hall, KIT=Heck Hall Kitchen, LIB=Library, MC=Miriam's Corner, RR=Raphael Room, STR=St. Therese Room

Liturgical Ministry Schedules

Liturgical ministry schedules for lectors, servers, and Eucharistic ministers for January through April are now available in the sacristy. Please pick up a copy as soon as possible. This is the last weekend to sign up on the Greeters schedule. Those schedules will be available next week. If you are interested in joining one of the ministries, please call the coordinator of the ministry you would like to join and you will be contacted.

EMs: Lisa Stringer (262) 442-3856

Altar Servers: Jim Balliet (414) 257-0339

Greeters: Audrey Wright (414) 771-2140

Lectors: Lisa Hollander (414) 443-9656



This Weekend is Sharing Weekend

The December Recipient of our Sharing Weekend collection will be Delphi House. Delphi house is celebrating their 20th Anniversary. Our mission statement has stayed the same: Delphi House seeks to create a nurturing environment for abused children who have been placed in foster care and to break the cycle of violence. They give children—regardless of race, religion, gender or national origin—the opportunity to learn alternatives to violence, to gain trust and self-esteem and to realize their full potential as human beings.

Please be generous during this Christmas Season. Thank you for your past wonderful response to our recipients.

Altered Bulletin Deadlines

Due to publication deadlines for the holidays, please refer to the chart below to determine when articles are due. Please remember that these deadlines are firm. If next weekend's bulletin is not listed, the deadline has passed. Thank you for planning ahead.

Bulletin Date	Due Date and Time
December 27th	December 15th, 8:30AM
January 3rd	December 23rd, 12:00PM

Respect Life

It is still most important for us to call our US Senators and Representatives expressing the Catholic perspective on health care. Legislation before the Senate is, according to the US Conference of Catholic Bishops, "an enormous disappointment creating new and completely unacceptable policy that endangers human life and rights of conscience." Please pray for change in the hearts and minds of our legislators forming this most serious and encompassing of public policy. Senators: (202) 224-3121. Representatives: (202) 225-3121



Entertainment Book Sales

Thank you to everyone who purchased a 2010 Entertainment Book. If you still need a few before the holidays, there's still time. Please contact Courtney in the Parish Office to arrange a pick up. Please remember us for your 2011 book early next fall!

Updated Liturgical Ministry Rosters Available in Sacristy

Updated rosters for Eucharistic Ministers, Lectors, Altar Servers, and Greeters are available in the ministry mailboxes in the sacristy. Each liturgical minister is asked to kindly take the time and pick these up.

Liturgical Ministry Needs for Christmas Liturgies

Due to the lack of space on the bulletin board, the Sign Up Sheets for Liturgical Ministers for Christmas and the January 1st Holyday are posted on the Adult Alb Closet Door. Please sign up there. Thank you for your ministry!

Unused Surplus Christmas Cards

Have you finished writing out all of your Christmas cards and found you have a few leftover? Have you had extra unused cards from previous years sitting in a box thinking sometime you would use up your old ones? If you would like to get rid of these extras, please let me know. An event is in the works for Christmas 2010 and that would require up to 200 Christmas cards. Please contact Cathy in the Parish Office if you would like to donate these cards.

Question of the Week:

Are you willing to share what you have and be satisfied with what you have left?

Intentions & Readings for the Week



December Sanctuary Candle

In Memory of †Peter Ferguson,
son of Ann Ferguson, grandson of Ann Lemanski

Monday

Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a/Mt 21:23-27

Tuesday Mass

Zep 3:1-2, 9-13/Mt 21:28-32

8:00AM †Fred Sachse

Wednesday

Is 45:6b-8, 18, 21b-25/Lk 7:18b-23

Thursday Liturgy of the Word with Communion

8:00AM *Gn 49:2, 8-10/Mt 1:1-17*

Friday Liturgy of the Word with Communion

8:00AM *Jer 23:5-8/Mt 1:18-25*

Saturday Mass

Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Lk 1:5-25

5:00PM †Tony DelVecchio

Sunday Masses

Mi 5:1-4a/Heb 10:5-10/Lk 1:39-45

8:00AM St. Therese Parish Community and
†Frank Schaffer

10:00AM †Jack Kopischke

Thank
you!

CHURCH SUPPORT

Envelopes &
Offertory

Last Weekend
\$7281.33

Have a "Green" Christmas This Year

It's holiday decorating time and we've got a couple of "green" decorating tips for you. These holiday ideas come from the St. Therese Green Team and the Urban Ecology Center. Your home can be festive and eco-friendly this year!

- ♦ If you get a live tree make sure no harmful pesticides or fertilizers were used when growing it so you can mulch it or compost it for your garden after the holidays. Or, if you prefer artificial trees, look for one at a "pre-loved" store like Goodwill.
- ♦ Send a holiday e-card. About 2.5 billion holiday cards are sold each year. You can save money and the planet by sending yours electronically.
- ♦ Decorate and reuse brown paper bags for eco-friendly wrapping paper with a personal touch. Or, buy recycled wrapping paper.

There are many more things you can do to make this holiday season more earth-friendly. Just think about how people used to decorate before there was so much mass produced holiday stuff. Look for more tips next week!

55+ Social Club

Members who have made reservations for the Christmas Luncheon at Alioto's on Wednesday, December 16th are reminded to arrive at 11:30AM.

Faith in Our Future Update

Thank you for your generosity to the Faith In Our Future Campaign! Our parishioners have pledged \$221,653 to the campaign, bringing us to 65% of our goal of \$340,000. So far, parish families have actually donated over \$52,000 to the trust. 40% of donations stay with the trust to support Catholic education and faith formation, and 60% are sent to St. Therese. We have used this \$31,247 to replace the bell tower door, pay for building, electrical, and heating repairs, and upgrade lighting in church. We have also tithed \$3,125 to the St. Vincent de Paul Society to help the needy.

If you would like to make or change a pledge, pledge cards on the tables at the entrances of church. If you have any questions, please contact the campaign chairs:

Dr. Jesse Stringer (262) 442-3710 JStringe@mcw.edu
Ann Maher (414) 453-4437 amaher@whdlaw.com
Michael Falk (414) 254-5619 mjf@e-falk.com
or email all three chairs at fiofchairs@sainttheresemilwaukee.org

Worldwide Marriage Encounter

"And this is my prayer: that your love may increase ever more... said that you may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ..." Come to a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend and recharge your marriage/holy orders. The next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekends are January 29th-31st in Milwaukee, March 12th-14th in Madison, and April 16th-18th in Milwaukee. Early registration is highly recommended. For more information visit our website at: alifetimeoflove.org or call (888) 574-5653.



3rd Sunday of Advent

Pretty practical advice from John the Baptist in this week's Gospel: if you have two cloaks, share one; if you have food, do the same; be honest, don't cheat; don't lie about others.

Practical advice is the kind of thing elders would dole out to children and grandchildren. Be polite; wait your turn; say "thank you"; wash your hands before meals; take a walk; have regular check-ups. You know the routine.

While the simple practical advice of our elders was meant to situate us in a wholesome life that was respectful of self and others, the practical advice of John the Baptist has a great end in mind. The actions he promotes are directed toward the coming kingdom of God. John's vision takes in the whole world and extends beyond his moment in time. He is foreseeing a day when God's justice will reign supreme. He is asking his listeners to begin now to make that justice happen.

The kind things we do at this time of year are to be more than simple acts of charity. Donating food, bringing gifts for the poor, contributing to agencies that help those in need are all good things. But if we see our actions for what they can be-giving from what has been given to us to the many who have less-we then begin to understand our place in the kingdom of God. If we have more than someone else, it is always incumbent on us to share. That is the practical advice that John lays out for his listeners as preparation for the coming of the Messiah. And just to make it clear, John adds that this Messiah is coming with his winnowing fan to separate wheat from chaff. God's justice will not be denied.

Please Help Us Keep Our Prayer List Current

It is our privilege for pray for others at our parish liturgies. The General Intercessions are offered at our celebrations of the Eucharist to extend our prayer beyond our parish and assembly. Please help us keep our prayer list current. If you would like a name on our prayer list, you may submit the name at www.sainttheresemilwaukee.org/prayerlist or contact Courtney Falk in writing, by phone, or by email and submit the following:

- ♦ the name of the person to be prayed for, with pronunciation if needed
- ♦ your name and contact information (phone or email)
- ♦ an agreement to communicate to Courtney Falk in writing, by phone, or email when the person's name should be removed from the list.

Thank you for understanding.

These Important Ministries Need Your Help

Art and Environment Committee Members

Help plan and decorate our Church environment for all the liturgical seasons. To volunteer, please call the Parish Office and leave a message on extension #21.

Church Helpers

Church Helpers make sure that the songbooks, pencils, and envelopes in the pews are replenished and in good order for the weekend liturgies. This ministry can be done anytime before the weekend masses begin on Saturday or after the 10:00AM mass on Sunday. To volunteer, please contact a Parish Council member. Phone numbers are in the column at right.

Decorate for Christmas

Next weekend, following the 10:00AM mass, everyone is welcome to help decorate the church for Christmas. There will be food, music, and a good time for all. If you have questions, please leave a voicemail for the Art & Environment Committee in the Parish Office at extension 21.

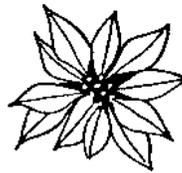
Important Information Regarding Snow Closings

Now that winter and the snow season has arrived, please note that any closings of the Parish Office and cancellation of meetings will be reported on Channel 12 (WISN TV); on the internet at wisn.com; radio stations 96.5 WKLH; 102.9 "The Hog;" Jammin' 98.3; and Smooth Jazz 106.9. Remember that our parish is St. Therese—Milwaukee in Milwaukee County. There are three "St. Therese" parishes in southeast Wisconsin—in Kenosha, in Eagle, and our parish in Milwaukee. Please also note that, if the Parish Office is closed, all meetings will be cancelled. There will also be a notice of this cancellation on our parish voicemail.

However, is not our practice to cancel liturgical services. If we do so, we will make a point of specifically noting that liturgical services (masses) have been cancelled. Be safe and use caution when travelling this winter season!

Flower & Candle Memorial Donations

In this season of giving, you can remember a loved one or a special intention by donating toward the cost of flowers and candles for our church environment. Please complete the form below, include your donation of any amount, and return both in the collection basket at any mass. Thank you for your generosity!



Candle and Flower Donations—PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Donor Name _____

Phone () _____ Amount Enclosed \$ _____

Select one: In Memory In Honor In Thanksgiving

Intention _____

Publish in bulletin? Yes No Print intention, not donor

Parish Council

1st Monday of Month at 7:00PM

Chairperson

Kathy Hubrich (414) 259-1961

Vice-Chairperson

Rich Sanger (414) 425-2028

Secretary

Heather Goeden (414) 313-6397

Trustees

Jim Balliet (414) 257-0339

Mari Pavleje (414) 545-2733

Darian Borst (414) 461-8030

Fran Clark (414) 476-7427

David Drozdowicz (262) 938-6756

Barb Gritzmacher (414) 774-1396

Pat Hall (414) 604-9396

Chuck Jagemann (414) 453-5280

Janet Krebs (414) 774-9113

Jesse Stringer (262) 442-3710

Greater Tosa
Interfaith
(414) 453-5750

Saint Vincent
de Paul
(414) 462-7837

Hospital Visits

The Federal Privacy Regulation (HIPAA—Health Insurance Portability & Accountability Act) prohibits hospitals from informing churches of a patient's presence unless the patient gives permission for the hospital to do so. If you are admitted to a hospital and would like remembrance in prayer or a pastoral visit, please contact Dr. Guliano in the Parish Office.

Prayer Network/Home Visits

Members of the Prayer Network pray daily for those that have asked for prayers. The intentions are kept confidential. To request prayers or a home visit, please contact Barb in the Parish Office.

**Please remember
Saint Therese Parish
in your will !**

Deadline:
Please see body
of bulletin for
altered deadlines
for the holidays.
writing; eman p.