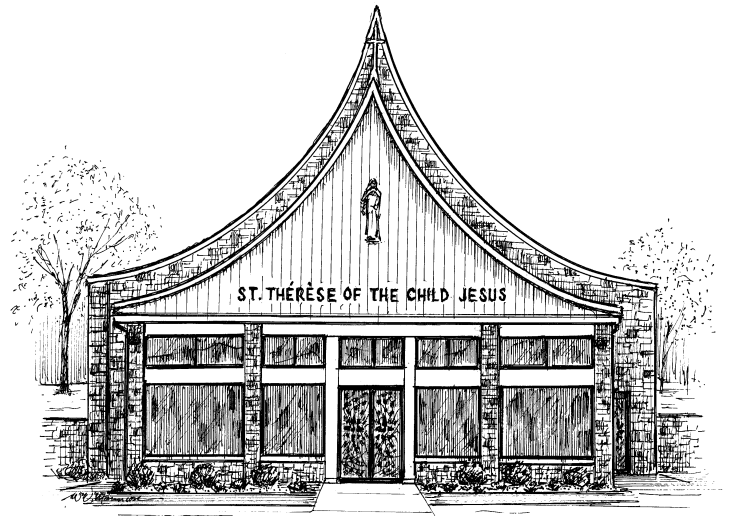


Saint Therese of the Child Jesus



**Father Brian Norris
Deacon Thomas McFee
2301 Fifth Street
Altoona, PA 16601-3863**

Mass Schedule

Saturday Evening:..... 5:00 PM
Sunday Morning:..... 8:00 AM & 10:30 AM

Parish Telephones

Office: 814-942-4479
[Usual Office Hours: 9AM-2PM, Mon., Wed., Fri.]
Mary Beth Schmidhamer, DRE..... 814-515-2914

Holy Trinity Regional Catholic School:

Fairview School Campus:..... 814-381-7011
Eldorado School Campus:..... 814-942-7835
Fr. Kelley Hall: 814-944-7450
E-mail: ...(Rectory) - sttheresealtoona@dioceseaj.org
(Fr. Brian Norris) - bnorris@dioceseaj.org
(Paula Hall) - phall@dioceseaj.org
(Sally Love) - slove@dioceseaj.org
Fax: 814-942-1873

Homepage: sttheresealtoona.com

Weekday Masses: Monday at 7:45. No mass on Tuesday. Thursday, Friday at 7:45 AM, Wednesday at 8:30 AM (with Holy Trinity Catholic School during school term), Saturday at 8:00 AM.

Holy Day Masses: 5:30 PM on the eve of the Holy Day, 12:05 PM & 6:30 PM on the Holy Day. Please refer to the bulletin for Christmas and New Year's schedules and for any schedule changes.

Baptisms: Our parish generally celebrates Baptisms on the Third Sunday of each month at the 10:30 AM Mass. Please contact the Parish Office for information regarding required instructional preparations. "Baptismal Names" can be a saint or biblical name, an expression of a Christian mystery or virtue, no name can be used which is foreign to the Christian mentality.

Confirmation: Confirmation is celebrated each year as scheduled by our Diocese. Candidates are expected to fulfill all Diocesan and Parish requirements in preparation

Holy Eucharist: First Communion is celebrated on the First Sunday of May. Please call the Parish Office to arrange for Holy Communion to be brought to shut-ins.

Reconciliation: Saturdays from 4:00 to 4:40 PM or by appointment.

Anointing of the Sick: For the seriously ill or injured OR those about to have surgery, please contact the Parish Office. Communal Anointing as arranged by the Pastoral Council.

Weddings: Weddings are to be scheduled at least six (6) months in advance and should precede any other arrangements for the wedding. All Wedding liturgies are scheduled so as not to conflict with regularly scheduled parish liturgies. All Diocesan directives and regulations for Marriage preparation (FOCCUS, Pre-Cana & Natural Family Planning) are required to be followed.

Christian Initiation for Adults: People desiring to become Catholic should contact the Parish Office before September of each year to begin the Christian Initiation Program which concludes at the Easter Vigil.

Religious Education: Public School Students from Grades 1 through 11, meet Sunday mornings from 9:00 AM to 10:20 AM in the school building.

Catholic Education: Our Parish is a supporting member of Holy Trinity Catholic School, grades Pre-school through 5th grade, and Bishop Guilfoyle Catholic High School, grades 6th through 12th.

Parish Membership: Consists of Registration in the Parish Census, active participation at Mass on Sundays and Holy Days, worthy reception of the sacraments of Holy Communion and Reconciliation regularly, and financial support of our Parish.



Third Sunday in Ordinary Time January 21, 2024

The kingdom of God is at hand.
Repent, and believe in the gospel.
— *Mark 1:15*

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: 2 Sm 5:1-7, 10; Ps 89:20-22, 25-26;
Mk 3:22-30, or any of a number of readings for the Day of Prayer

Tuesday: 2 Sm 6:12b-15, 17-19; Ps 24:7-10;
Mk 3:31-35

Wednesday: 2 Sm 7:4-17; Ps 89:4-5, 27-30; Mk 4:1-20

Thursday: Acts 22:3-16 or Acts 9:1-22; Ps 117:1bc, 2;
Mk 16:15-18

Friday: 2 Tm 1:1-8 or Ti 1:1-5; Ps 51:3-7, 10-11;
Mk 4:26-34

Saturday: 2 Sm 12:1-7a, 10-17; Ps 51:12-17;
Mk 4:35-41

Sunday: Dt 18:15-20; Ps 95:1-2, 6-9; 1 Cor 7:32-35;
Mk 1:21-28

Keep in touch with us via
email and text!



TEXT
STTHALTOONA

TO 84576



OR CONNECT WITH US ONLINE AT:
stthereseofjesus.flocknote.com

FREE MINISTRY TO TRAVELING CATHOLIC

For nationwide Mass times and locations:
Internet www.Masstimes.org OR call 1-410-676-6000.

THE DEMANDS OF DISCIPLESHIP

Today we encounter readings that already have a Lenten feel about them. Nineveh undergoes a forty-day fast, the psalmist reminds us that God alone can show sinners the way, Paul shows us how fleeting the things and events of this world are, and Jesus cries out “Repent!” before he calls his new followers. “Come after me,” Jesus says, but if we are to truly live out the commands and demands of our discipleship through baptism, we must first know our need for conversion, our repentance, our need to believe in the gospel fully. Today’s Gospel opens with the stark reminder of what befell John the Baptist for completely living out his vocation as the herald of Christ and the gospel: he was arrested, imprisoned, and martyred. Though few of us will experience consequences that extreme, we must all be ready to risk some sort of rejection as, heeding the call of Jesus, we live out the kingdom of God at hand, repent of our sins, and believe in the good news of salvation.

Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

One of the most unusual Catholic churches in the world is in Amsterdam: Our Lord in the Attic, or as the locals say, “Ons Lieve Heer op Solder.” What looks like a beautiful narrow brick mansion alongside a canal is a clever disguise for a very well-preserved seventeenth-century home and a secret church. During the Reformation, the Netherlands was divided into Protestant Holland and the Spanish Netherlands, now known as Belgium, a Catholic stronghold. Protestant reformers seized all the Catholic parishes in Holland and “de-Catholicized” them. New laws forbade the celebration of the Mass in public. St. Nicholas Church was renamed “Old Church” by the new owners, and the dispossessed Catholics got to work “hiding” St. Nicholas Parish in the upper floors of this mansion. Other Catholics did the same thing, but this is the only hidden church that survives today. Sunday Mass is still celebrated here.

It’s a beautiful hideaway, with nothing spared in regard to marble, gilding, a pipe organ, and classic Dutch painting. A few steps away, the Old Church, begun in 1250, stands emptied of the statues and carvings of its Catholic days, its windows replaced by plain glass. The new tenants gave up when it came to the ceiling, which is still painted with saints, biblical scenes, and merchant ships. The Dutch reformers were tolerant sorts, and as long as the Catholics kept out of sight, they were out of mind. Catholicism was at last tolerated in Holland after 1853, but in 1924 when the International Eucharistic Congress was held in Amsterdam, processions of Catholics were still forbidden in the streets. Today, Roman Catholics are about 19 percent of the population, and there’s no need for any of them to hide in the attic. —Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

GIFT

What I am is God’s gift to me. What I become is my gift back to God.

—Anonymous

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Birthdays:

- January 22:** Janet Luciano + John Bravin + Shawn Grimme + Alec Clark
- January 23:** Joann Kasun + Bill Fischer + Vince Sprouse + Kelsea Garman
- January 24:** Paul Hasson + Aaron Slauter Jennifer Schmidhamer + Emily Lonero
- January 25:** Anna Fera
- January 27:** Michele Charlton
- January 28:** Anna Bush + Jess Curfman

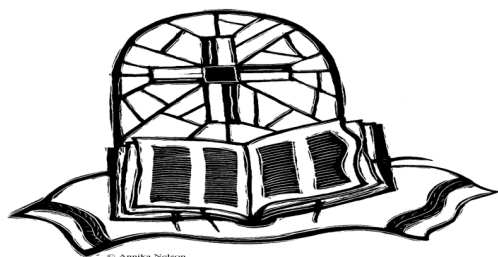
Anniversaries:

- January 24, 1987:** Diana & James Weston

Our prayers for ALL of you celebrating "special days." this week, is that God gives you His continued blessing.

MONICA'S TEARS

Following the example of St. Monica, we will gather at **St. Rose Church, Altoona** in Adoration of Our Lord before the Blessed Sacrament for one hour every Thursday from 6:00 PM to 7:00 PM to pray for the return of our children and grandchildren to the practice of the Catholic Faith. Please contact: Peach Maschue at (814) 943-7809.



WEEKLY PARISH SUPPORT

Deposits for the week of : January 4 - 10, 2024	
Sunday Offertory Adults:	\$ 2,529.60
Sunday Offertory Students:	\$ 3.03
Monthly Collection:	\$ 2,100.00
Loose Collection:	\$ 254.00
Total Offertory:	\$ 4,886.63
Twin Parish Collection:	\$ 110.00
Christmas Club:	\$ 958.00
Votive Candles:	\$ 40.00
Other Receipts:	\$ 2,092.70
Donation:	\$ 500.00
SVDP:	\$ 25.00
2nd Sunday:	\$ 895.00
Solemnity of Mary:	\$ 5.00
TOTAL DEPOSIT:	\$ 9,512.33

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

- Monday, January 22, 2024: Day of Prayer for Unborn Children**
7:45 AM FRANK J. RIMBECK (Margaret A. Rimbeck)
- Tuesday, January 23, 2024: St. Vincent**
7:45 AM **NO MASS**
- Wednesday, January 24, 2024: St. Francos de Sales**
8:30 AM FR. D. TIMOTHY GRIMME (Hampton Durbin)
- Thursday, January 25, 2024: Conversion of St. Paul**
7:45 AM SPECIAL INTENTIONS (Kapfhammer Family)
- Friday, January 26, 2024: Sts. Timothy & Titus**
7:45 AM ANDY DICKSON (Alice Sturm)
- Saturday, January 27, 2024: St. Angela Meroco**
8:00 AM LARRY SPROUSE (Burke Family)
5:00 PM GEORGE SHEVENOCK [Birthday] (Wife)
- Sunday, January 28, 2024: 4th Sunday in Ord. Time**
8:00 AM FOR VOCATIONS (Kapfhammer Family)
10:30 AM FOR OUR PARISH FAMILY

WELCOME COMMITTEE

The next meeting of the Welcome Committee will be on Monday, February 12, at 6:00 PM in Father Kelly Hall. Anyone interested in joining is welcome to come to the meeting. Any questions or concerns call: Paula Kensinger at 814-944-5463 or Paula Hall at 814-931-7320.

LITURGICAL ROLES

January 27 & 28

ALTAR SERVERS

- 5:00 PM Alana Cropsey, Maxwell Stahlman
- 8:00 AM Abraham Manfred, Reuben Manfred
- 10:30 AM Owen McCarville & Paul McCarville

READERS

- 5:00 PM Albert Schlecht & Judith Wilkinson
- 8:00 AM Kathryn Millward, Eileen Porta
- 10:30 AM Jay Burlingame, Andre McCarville

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

- 5:00 PM Melvin Kepner, Christine Kepner, Anna Kepner
- 8:00 AM Deacon Thomas McFee Kimberly Etters, Mary Bravin
- 10:30 AM Louis Gresik, Alice Sturm, Robert Kasun

GREETERS/USHERS

- 5:00 PM Barbara Grimme, Janet Luciano, Dave Mason, Leonard Haduck
- 8:00 AM Robert Gallagher Jr, Robert Gallagher, III, Kenneth Klinger
- 10:30 AM Cathy Chirdon, Robert Chirdon, Mary Alice Kauffman, Raymond

St Vincent de Paul Society Update -

Our St Therese conference helped 4 families in December:

1. A mother with two children going to school and looking at eviction. She had part of her rent, but needed assistance. St Therese paid \$250.00.
2. We also helped a family whose mother had to stop working due to high-risk pregnancy. Her spouse cares for one of the children who has a disability. The St. Vincent DePaul Needs Office paid \$250.00 and St Therese paid \$250.00 to prevent their eviction.
3. We helped a young mother who had brain surgery and then a stroke, who cannot work at this time. St Therese, St Mary and St Rose conferences each paid \$344.00 to prevent her eviction.
4. We helped a young woman who already works two jobs to pay her bills. St Therese paid \$400.00 to help her get into an apartment.
5. we also paid \$200.00 to the St Vincent National Disaster Fund which helps when there are fires, floods, hurricanes and tornadoes in different states.

Thank you for your continued support for the poor.

An Update on our Warming Shelter:

We have been serving 13 to 21 guests nightly and it has been a beautiful experience for all those who have served. The neighbors are very appreciative of a warm and safe place to rest and the volunteers have been changed by this experience. Please continue to pray for our shelter, for all those serving the poor, and for our neighbors who are homeless.

Catholic Ministries Drive 2023:

The Catholic Ministries Drive for our Diocese concluded on December 31st, 2023. Our parish was one of 23 parishes to hit the parish goal. That is 23 parishes out of 87 parishes in the diocese. Our donations were \$705.00 over our parish goal so that means \$705.00 will come back to our parish. I want to thank all of you for your generosity towards the Catholic Ministries Drive. The money raised for that drive helps with many Diocese-wide projects in evangelization, serving those in need, and priest and deacon formation. These initiatives include: the training of priests, Proclaim! (our diocesan television program and weekly televised mass), campus ministry at colleges in our diocese, Catholic Charities in our diocese, and more. These ministries are only possible through our continued support. Thank you for supporting these ministries with your donations to the 2023 Catholic Ministries Drive!

St. Therese Fish Fry

We had a great turnout at the St. Therese Fish Fry meeting this past Wednesday night. I am hopefully that we will have enough workers to have both take out and eat in options at this year's fish fry. If you were unable to attend the meeting, I would encourage you to consider signing up to help with as many of the fish fries as you can in the narthex of the church. There are yellow legal pads with different jobs on the long wooden table in the narthex.

I would also ask you to attend the fish fries, even if you cannot help with the fish fries. The money raised from the fish fries is a great help for paying our parish utilities, and diocesan assessments. Also, fundraisers like the fish fries are not taxed by the diocese, so every cent of profit we make stays here at St. Therese of the Child Jesus Parish. Please support this fundraiser for our parish community as you are able.

Fr. Norris