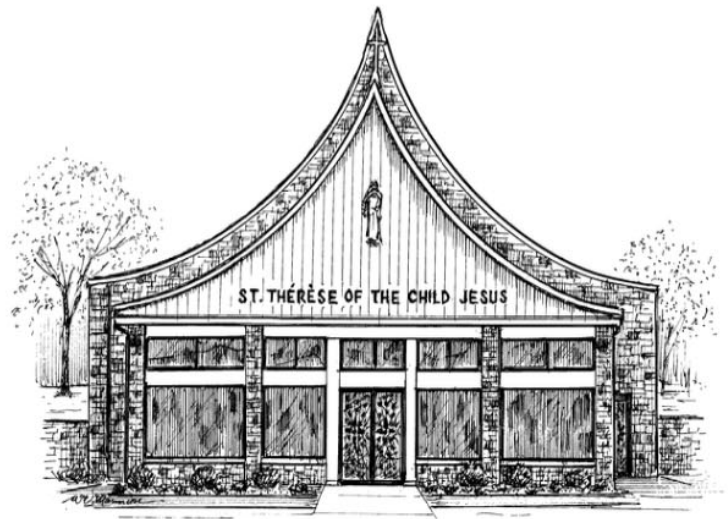


# Saint Therese of the Child Jesus



**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: ... (Rector) - 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](http://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.

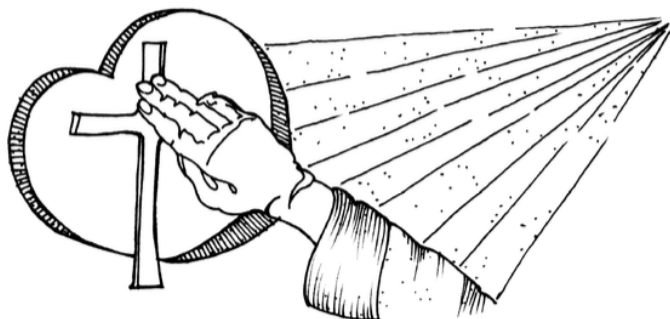
**Weddings:** Weddings are to be scheduled at least six (6) months in advance and should precede any other arrangements for the wedding. All Wedding liturgies are scheduled so as not to conflict with regularly scheduled parish liturgies. All Diocesan directives and regulations for Marriage preparation (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.



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### Fifth Sunday of Lent March 17, 2024

I will place my law within them and write it upon their hearts; I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

— *Jeremiah 31:33*

### READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: 2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29;  
Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22; Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or  
Lk 2:41-51a

Tuesday: Nm 21:4-9; Ps 102:2-3, 16-21; Jn 8:21-30

Wednesday: Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95; Dn 3:52-56;  
Jn 8:31-42

Thursday: Gn 17:3-9; Ps 105:4-9; Jn 8:51-59

Friday: Jer 20:10-13; Ps 18:2-7; Jn 10:31-42

Saturday: Ez 37:21-28; Jer 31:10, 11-13; Jn 11:45-56

Sunday: Mk 11:1-10 or Jn 12:12-16; (procession)  
Is 50:4-7; Ps 22: 8-9, 17-20, 23-24;  
Phil 2:6-11; Mk 14:1 — 15:47 [15:1-39]

### CATHOLIC MINISTRIES DRIVE 2024

Our theme this year is ***“ENCOUNTERING CHRIST”***.

The annual Catholic Ministries Drive supports programs and services beyond the resources of any single parish. Without your help, we could not fulfill our mission. It is important to stress that ministries within our Diocese also rely on parishioner support, and 100% of every donation to the Catholic Ministries Drive is restricted to the ministries funded by the CMD.

### Our 2024 Catholic Ministries Drive:

**Target is: \$21,294.00**

**Pledged: \$ 5,549.00**

**Our remaining goal: \$ 15,745.00**

**So far we have received 25 donations and have met 26% of our goals.**

All contributions received beyond our parish target will be used for our church projects.

Thank you for supporting these vital ministries with sacrificial gifts of prayer and treasure.

### FREE MINISTRY TO TRAVELING CATHOLIC

For nationwide Mass times and locations:

Internet [www.Masstimes.org](http://www.Masstimes.org) OR call 1-410-676-6000.



### Lenten Penance Service Schedule:

-Saint Mark Parish, Altoona – 5:30 PM

**March 16**

-St. Therese of the Child Jesus, Altoona 10:00 AM

**March 18**

-Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, Altoona – 7:00 PM

**March 20**

-Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament, Altoona– 6:00 PM

**March 21**

-Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, Altoona – 5:30 PM

**March 24**

-Saint Mary Parish, Hollidaysburg – 4:00 PM

**March 27**

-Our Lady of the Alleghenies Parish, Lilly – 6:00 PM



### LENTEN FISH FRY

**St. Therese of the Child Jesus Parish  
Father Kelley Hall (25th Ave & 5th St)**

**Fridays during Lent.**

**March 22**

**4:00 PM until 7:00 PM or fish runs out.**

A choice of Baked or Fried Fish  
Macaroni & Cheese or French Fries  
Stewed Tomatoes

Cole Slaw or Apple Sauce

Plus Dessert

**EAT IN OR TAKE-OUT**

**READY TO GO ORDERS call**

**582-895-1741**

**Cost: \$14.00– per Dinner**

### WELCOME COMMITTEE

The Welcome Committee recently presented the following new parishioners with Welcome baskets.

Kathryn Jefferson and Irenaeus Adams

Patricia Caum

Richard and Becky Courtot

Corey, Adam, Ruby, Margaret and Oliver Craw

Katherine, Colin, Leo and Nora Dangler

Charlene Frank

Corey, Katie, Gracie, Henry and Wesley Husted

Walter and Michelle Kennedy.

It is wonderful to see our parish family growing! Please welcome our new members to our church.



**Birthdays:**

- March 18:** Anne Kauffman + Ellie Kauffman + Christina McCarville
- March 19:** Jena Brandt + Richard Courtot, Sr.
- March 20:** Melinda Luciano
- March 21:** Rickey MacIntyre + William Waksmonski
- March 22:** Adelaide Geishauer + Karlee Tyler
- March 23:** Michael Fouse + Anberlyn Petrecca

**Anniversaries:**

- March 18, 1978:** Mark & Joni Reismeier

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

**BLANKETS FOR HOPE**

Do you have extra yarn or fleece fabric just shoved in a closet somewhere? Perhaps you would consider donating it to Blankets for Hope. This is a National Honors Society project for Owen McCarville. He and a team will be making crochet and fleece blankets, then taking them to the Hope Drop-in Center right here in Altoona. They will be distributed to the homeless in need. Also, if you would be interested in helping to make a blanket you are most welcome.

Please contact Owen McCarville at (412) 865-8349 with any questions. There will be a box in the narthex of the church where you can drop off any materials by April 7. Thank you very much in advance!

**WEEKLY PARISH SUPPORT**

Deposits for the week of February 29—March 10, 2024:

Sunday Offertory Adults:	<b>\$ 2,676.60</b>
Sunday Offertory Students:	<b>\$ 14.00</b>
Monthly Collection:	<b>\$ 1,522.23</b>
Loose Collection:	<b>\$ 155.00</b>
Total Offertory:	<b>\$ 4,367.83</b>
Twin Parish Collection:	<b>\$ 175.00</b>
Christmas Club:	<b>\$ 933.00</b>
Votive Candles:	<b>\$ 38.00</b>
Other Receipts:	<b>\$ 405.00</b>
Easter:	<b>\$ 270.00</b>
Catholic Relief:	<b>\$ 220.00</b>
Holy Land:	<b>\$ 60.00</b>
2nd Sunday:	<b>\$ 1,144.00</b>

**TOTAL DEPOSIT: \$ 7,612.83**

May God continue to bless you for your support of Saint Therese Parish and its programs.

**MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK**

- Monday, March 18, 2024: St. Cyril**  
7:45 AM NANCY & LOUIS BRAVIN (Daughter & Son)
- Tuesday, March 19, 2024: St. Joseph**  
7:45 AM NO MASS
- Wednesday, March 20, 2024:**  
8:30 AM MR. THOMAS R. MOORE (Tom Eckenrode & Family)
- Thursday, March 21, 2024:**  
7:45 AM BARBARA MAYERNICK [Anniversary] (Estate)
- Friday, March 22, 2024:**  
7:45 AM WILLIAM & PATRICIA MONTGOMERY (Montgomery Estate)
- Saturday, March 23, 2024: St. Turibius**  
8:00 AM ANN SCHMIDHAMER (Society. SVDP/ Altoona Council)  
5:00 PM MARIAN AIRHART (Kapfhammer Family)
- Sunday, March 24, 2024: Palm Sunday**  
8:00 AM FOR OUR PARISH FAMILY  
10:30 AM MARY ANN WEIGHT (Taylor & Theresa Seidel)

**EASTER DECORATING**

We will be decorating the church for Easter on **Saturday, March 30, 2024 at 8:30AM.** If you would like to help, please call Judy Wilkinson at (814) 944-9515 or come to the church by 8:30 AM.

**LITURGICAL ROLES**

**March 23 & 24, 2024 (Palm Sunday)**

**ALTAR SERVERS**

- 5:00 PM Alana Cropsey
- 8:00 AM Colin Etters, Natalie Etters
- 10:30 AM Samuel and Ellie Kauffman

**READERS**

- 5:00 PM Rosalie Dickson, Kathleen Laporte
- 8:00 AM Andrew Potopa, Eileen Porta
- 10:30 AM Alice Sturm, Sandra Lear

**EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS**

- 5:00 PM Janet Durbin, Albert Schlecht, Deacon Thomas McFee
- 8:00 AM John Bravin, Mary Bravin, Deacon Thomas McFee
- 10:30 AM Marklin Myers, Mary Beth Schmidhamer, Deacon Thomas McFee

**GREETERS/USHERS**

- 5:00 PM Janet Luciano, Leonard Haduck  
Dave Mason, Theresa Plunket
- 8:00 AM Marjorie Beiswenger, Kenneth Klinger  
Robert Gallagher Jr., Robert Gallagher III
- 10:30 AM Kristine Hennaman, Marita Forr,  
Dianne Hite, Paul Hite

## **BISHOP GUIFLOYLE ACADEMY**

Our Catholic schools, Holy Trinity and Bishop Guilfoyle, are now a unified PreK- Grade 12 school, known as Bishop Guilfoyle Academy. Offering PreK through Grade 5 at St. Therese (Fairview campus) and at St. Rose of Lima (Eldorado campus), and junior and senior high school (Grades 6-12) at the Pleasant Valley campus.

**NEW for fall 2024....** BG Academy is adding a **Hollidaysburg Early Childhood Campus** at St. Michael parish. It will offer PreK & Kindergarten, growing to Grade 5, full-day, Monday through Friday. Before and after school program is available.

The promise is a supportive, faith-filled and virtues-based environment, honoring each child's unique strengths, interests, and learning styles that fosters a sense of belonging and empowerment.

**Scholarships Available! Call us for a tour!** PreK – Grade 5 (942.7835). Grades 6-12 (944.4014). Visit us at ***bishopguilfoyleacademy.org***

## **PASSIONTIDE -**

Traditionally the **final two weeks of Lent in the Roman Rite** are used as an immediate preparation for the sorrowful events of the Easter drama. It is a period of time to focus more and more on the Passion and death of Jesus and so accompany him on his way to Calvary.

For several centuries the **Fifth Sunday of Lent (this Sunday) was known as "Passion Sunday"** and marked the beginning of a special sub-season called Passiontide, which extended up until Holy Saturday. During this time the Church's liturgy became more somber and a sorrowful mood was reflected in the various practices that occurred in the liturgy.

The most obvious example of a more somber mood was the **veiling of statues and images**, which remains an optional practice in the current *Roman Missal*: "In the Dioceses of the United States, the practice of covering crosses and images throughout the church from [the fifth] Sunday [of Lent] may be observed. Crosses remain covered until the end of the Celebration of the Lord's Passion on Good Friday, but images remain covered until the beginning of the Easter Vigil."

**Palm Sunday was seen as the "Second Sunday in Passiontide,"** and is currently listed in the liturgical calendar as "Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion." It is on this day that the Passion narrative is read, the longest Sunday Gospel reading of the entire year. The Church beckons us on Palm Sunday to look toward the cross and see Christ's immense love for us, sacrificing himself for our sins. It is a preview of what is to come on Good Friday.

After Palm Sunday, Passion Week gives way to Holy Week and the Church follows Jesus during his final days in Jerusalem. The Passion narrative was traditionally proclaimed during Mass on each day of Holy Week leading up to Holy Thursday. Wednesday during this week is known as "Spy Wednesday" and signified the day on which Judas betrayed Jesus and informed the Sanhedrin of his plan.

In the end, Passiontide is meant to be a special penitential period where we focus on Jesus' bitter passion and foster within ourselves sorrow for our sins. The good news is that Passiontide does not have the last say, and this somber period of preparation ends quickly so that our hearts can rejoice in the beauty of Christ's resurrection. (excerpt from the article "What is Passiontide" on aleteia.org written by Phillip Kosloski on 3/30/17).

 **HAPPY**  
**ST. PATRICK'S DAY!** 

## **NIGHTS AT THE RACES**

**Saturday, April 6, 2024**, at Holy Trinity-Eldorado Gym. Doors open at 5:30 PM, Dinner is at 6:00 PM, and Horse Races start at 7:00 PM. Tickets are \$40.00 includes: food, drinks and one horse, jockey or trainer. Receive \$15.00 in family fundraising credit for each ticket sold under the student's name. Stay after the races for an "after hours" get-together! Kentucky derby dress attire is highly encouraged. Contact Holy Trinity at 814-942-7835 for information.