

St. Teresa of Avila Church Est. 1869

DECEMBER 9, 2018 • SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT



PASTOR

Rev. David Baker

RECTORY

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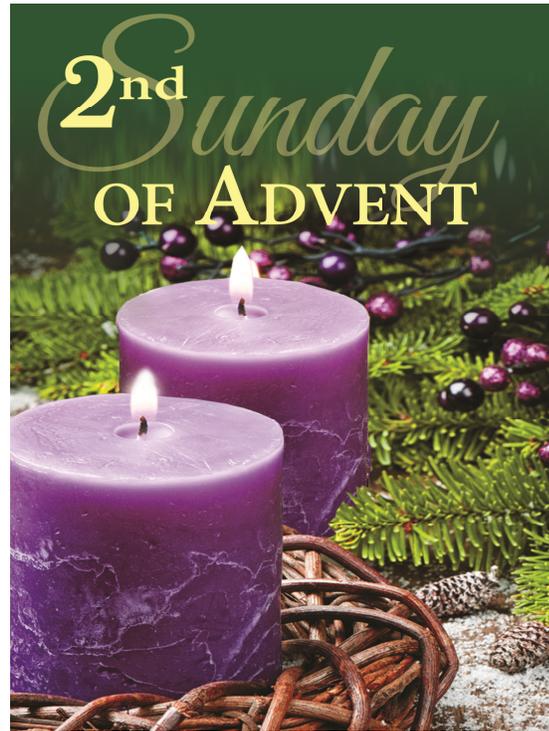
**PARISH HALL & OFFICE OF
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

5775 Buell Street

(716) 542-5777

MISSION STATEMENT

We, the Catholic faith community of St. Teresa of Avila parish, guided by the Holy Spirit, commit ourselves to proclaim and follow the Good News of Jesus Christ. Basing our lives on faith, hope and love, we seek to meet our needs and the spiritual and corporal needs of those around us. It is our humble prayer that our lives will be visible signs of His presence in the world as we celebrate Christ in His Word and Sacraments.



MASS SCHEDULE

<i>Sunday Liturgies</i>	8:00 AM, 10:15 AM
<i>Saturday Vigil</i>	4:30 PM
<i>Weekday Liturgies</i>	
<i>Daily</i>	8:00 AM, except Wednesday 5:30 PM
<i>Saturday</i>	9:00 AM
<i>Vigil of Holy Days</i>	5:30 PM
<i>Holy Days</i>	8:00 AM; 7:30 PM

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturdays 3:45 to 4:15 p.m.

First Saturday 8:15 to 8:45 a.m.

Vigil of Holy Days 3:45 to 4:15 p.m.
or anytime by request.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

As preparation for Baptism, parents are asked to contact the parish office to make an appointment with the Pastor.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

Arrangements to be made at the Rectory 6 months in advance.

NEW PARISHIONERS

Please register at the Rectory as soon as you move within the parish.
Note: If you are moving out of the parish, please notify the Rectory.

LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

These letters needed for Baptismal and Confirmation sponsors are issued gladly to those who have been registered for 6 months, attend Mass regularly, have been confirmed, if married, have done so in conformity with the Church laws, and children attend Religious Education.



MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Monday, December 10

8:00 Irene Swift *by Bernadette Connolly*

Tuesday, December 11 - St. Damasus I

8:00 Francis Dahill *by family*

Wednesday, December 12 - Our Lady of Guadalupe

5:30 Daniel Fabio *by Ron Konieczny*

Thursday, December 13 - St. Lucy

8:00 Michael Raykowski *by brother*

Friday, December 14 - St. John of the Cross

8:00 Irene Swift - Birthday Remembrance *by daughter*

Saturday, December 15

9:00 Parishioners of St. Teresa's

4:30 Dr. David Fish *by Mike and Marybeth Whiting*

Sunday, December 16 - Third Sunday of Advent

8:00 Ron Konieczny *by Jim and Mary Ann Schneider*

10:15 Barbara Sylvester Dunphy *by The Sylvester Family*



Scripture Readings For the Week

Monday - Isaiah 35:1-10;
Luke 5:17-26

Tuesday - Isaiah 40:1-11; Matthew 18:12-14

Wednesday - Revelation 11:19a, 12:1-6a, 10ab; Luke 1:39-47

Thursday - Isaiah 41:13-20; Matthew 11:11-15

Friday - Isaiah 48:7-19; Matthew 11:16-19

Saturday - Sirach 48:1-4, 9-11; Matthew 17:9a, 10-13

Sunday - Zephaniah 3:14-18a; Philippians 4:4-7; Luke 3:10-18



What an appropriate day, as John the Baptist appears on the scene in our Gospel, for Deacon Ron to baptize several children here in our church! Our deacon has been keeping quite busy lately. In addition to baptism classes and prep, he's been running our brand new RCIA process. Candidates from RCIA will also be featured at our 10:15 Mass this weekend, with the Rite of Acceptance. This is the first of several public rituals as the candidates prepare for initiation at Easter.

The Rite of Acceptance is primarily an introduction. We introduce our candidates to you, and you have a chance to affirm them and assure them of your prayers and support, as they discern whether the Catholic faith is the right spiritual home for them.

Last call for the Bucket Brigade! Please place them under the narthex tree this weekend, and we will deliver them to Sister Johnice at Response to Love Center on Monday morning. Thanks to all who participated in this project! Those bright red pails looked very cheerful under the tree.

The Mitten Tree will remain up for one more weekend, so there's still time to help out with that project too, as we try to help our less fortunate neighbors keep warm this winter. May God bless your charity!

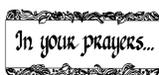
One last reminder that this Friday, the 14th, is our monthly Fully Alive Adoration service. We all have many things going on, but this can be a short prayer break on the way home from your visiting and shopping. Come anytime between 7:30 and 9 p.m. and stay for ten minutes. Catch your breath and let Jesus refresh you!

Enjoy this second Sunday of Advent, as we light the second candle on the wreath. Next Sunday we'll be lighting the rose candle already. Jesus is very near, and in fact He always is. We just need to remember to turn to Him.

Prepare the way of the Lord,

-Fr. Dave

Our Prayer Request for the Week: This Advent, may Jesus give hope and comfort to all the suffering, grieving, and struggling; we pray to the Lord...



Please pray for the sick of the parish and their family members particularly; Shirley Lantz, Lorraine Sylvester, Norma Hackbush, Lucas Lowe, Pat Hahn, Jim Creed, Liam Williams, Doug Schifferle, Jess Reger, Crystal Howard, Leah Howard, Karen Martin, Christopher Ginestre, Whitey Spoth, Arlene Scheeda, Gloria Rembas, Geraldine Benker and Msgr. Robert Williamson. Please also continue to pray for our troops who are serving our country throughout the world.

Religious Education: Parents please take note of the brand new Heritage Missal in the pews. "The Memorare" prayer to Mary can be found on page 264. We celebrate the Immaculate Conception on December 8 and we pray to her to intercede for us and for our country. New Missal? A great time to teach your child how to use the missal book during Mass.



The Mitten Tree has arrived! Donations of handmade or store bought mittens, scarves and hats are sincerely appreciated and will be given to the Akron/Newstead Food Pantry. The tree will be up through next weekend.

Mark your Calendar: Advent Penance Service at Our Lady of Peace Church in Clarence on Wednesday, December 12th at 7:00 pm. Our parish, Our Lady of Peace, Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary and Sacred Heart in Bowmansville will be participating. Several area priests will be there. Don't pass up this moment of grace!

Retirement Fund for Religious - Aging religious need your help. Senior sisters, brothers, and religious order priests ministered for years for little to no pay. Their sacrifices now leave their religious communities without adequate retirement savings. Your gift to this weekend's second collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious helps to provide medications, nursing care, and more for tens of thousands of elderly religious. Your generosity is appreciated.

Altar Server Training - TODAY! We will be offering a training for all interested new altar servers on Sunday, December 9th, immediately following the 10:15 am Mass. Any boy or girl who is at least in grade 4 is invited to attend.

Bucket Brigade - This is the last weekend for you to drop off your supplies for the clients of Sister Johnice's Response to Love Center on Buffalo's East Side. Join the brigade!

Deacon Greg Feary presents "The Mary of Advent" on Monday, December 17 from 7-8 pm in Our Lady of Pompeii Church, 158 Laverack Avenue, Lancaster. How can Mary help us prepare for Christmas? Come explore the stories of the Mary of Advent that we find in scripture, song and art. It will surely fill your Advent with joyful expectation.

How can you focus on celebrating when you've gone through so much lately? When you are in the midst of grief, the last thing you want to think about is the holidays. The Office of Family Life Ministries would like to help support you during the holiday season! They provide a packet of prayers, articles, thoughts and ideas to try to help you through the holidays after losing a loved one. Contact the Office of Family Life Ministries at 716-847-2210.

😊 Just before the final exam in anatomy class, a less-than-stellar college student approached the teacher. "Can you tell me what grade I would need to get on the exam to pass the course?" he asked. The professor gave him the bad news. "The exam is worth 100 points. You would need 113 points to earn a D." "OK," he said. "And how many points would I need to get a C?"



- **Sunday, December 9** - Religious Education Classes - 9:00 - 10:00 am and 11:15 am - 12:30 pm
- **Friday, December 14** - Fully Alive Adoration - 7:30 pm in the Church
- **Saturday, December 15** - Monthly Visitation to the Brothers of Mercy Nursing Home - volunteers meet at the entrance of the home at 10:00 am - cookies are appreciated!
- **Weekend of December 15-16** - Akron/Newstead Food Pantry Collection Barrels will be out in the back of the Church; Soup and Crackers are needed!
- **Sunday, December 16** - Religious Education Classes - 9:00 - 10:00 am and 11:15 am - 12:30 pm



Prayer For Priests and Religious

Heavenly Father, please grant to Your faithful servants, the grace and strength to carry out Your mission for the church each day. Keep our priests close to You and continue to inspire them to serve others in Your holy name. Please help to inspire men who are called to a priestly vocation to answer Your call and participate in the fullness that You have planned for them. Amen.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK:

Spend some time with Jesus this week. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will open your communications with our Lord and Savior. He is waiting for you to talk to Him.