



ST. TERESA OF AVILA PARISH

Akron, New York

TERESEAN TIMES

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Spring/Summer 2014

Pastor

Rev. Msgr.
Robert J. Williamson

Rectory

5771 Buell Street
P.O. Box 168, Akron, NY 14001
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Fax: 716-542-2444
stteresasofakron@verizon.net

Mass Schedule

Sunday

8:00, 10:15 AM

Saturday Vigil

4:30 PM

Weekday Liturgies

Daily

8:00 AM

Except Wednesday 5:30 PM

Saturday

9:00 AM

Vigil of Holy Days

4:30 PM

Holy Days

8:00 AM and 7:30 PM

Religious Education Director

Sr. M. Ruth Warejko, CSSF
Convent: 716-542-9717
Classroom Office: 716-542-5777

Business Manager

Melissa Sanford

Baptisms

Arrangements must be made
3 weeks prior

Marriages

Please contact the Parish
Rectory for more information

Parish Website

www.stteresasofakron.com



*“Christ has no body on earth but yours;
no hands, no feet on earth but yours.
Yours are the eyes through which He
looks with compassion on the world;
Yours are the feet with which He walks to do good;
Yours are the hands with which He blesses all the world.
Christ has no body now on the earth but yours.”*

~St. Teresa of Avila

OMBUDSMEN FOR THE 21ST CENTURY



*St. John XXIII
Angelo Roncalli
11-25-1881 - 6-3-1963
Pope 1958 - 1963
Feast Day: October 11th*

“Peace is but an empty word, if it does not rest upon that order . . . That is founded on truth, built up on justice, nurtured and animated by charity, and brought into effect under the auspices of freedom . . . human resources alone, even though inspired by the most praiseworthy good will, cannot hope to achieve it. God Himself must come to man’s aid with His heavenly assistance.”

John XXIII



*St. John Paul II
Karol Wojtyla
5-18-1920 - 4-2-2005
Pope 1978 - 2005
Feast Day: October 22nd*

“The world you are inheriting is a world which desperately needs a new sense of brotherhood and human solidarity. It is a world which needs to be touched and healed by the beauty and richness of God’s love.”

John Paul II

A Prayer for Priests

“Lord Jesus, Chief Shepherd of the Flock, we pray that in the great love and mercy of Your Sacred Heart that You attend to all the needs of Your Heart all those priests who have seriously strayed from Your path, that You rekindle the desire for holiness in the hearts of those priests who have become lukewarm, and that You continue to give Your fervent priests the desire for the highest holiness. United with Your Heart and Mary’s Heart, we ask that You take this petition to Your heavenly Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit. Amen.”

From the prayer manual of Shepherds of Christ

Faith opens our eyes to human life
in all its grandeur and beauty

~Respect Life~

Pope Francis on the Vulnerable Unborn from his Apostolic Exhortation

*“Evangeli Gaudium”
The Joy of the Gospel*

Among the vulnerable for whom the Church wishes to care with particular love and concern are unborn children, the most defenseless and innocent among us. Nowadays efforts are made to deny them their human dignity and to do with them whatever one pleases, taking their lives and passing laws preventing anyone from standing in the way of this. Frequently, as a way of ridiculing the Church’s effort to defend their lives, attempts are made to present her position as ideological, obscurantist and conservative. Yet this defense of unborn life is closely linked to the defense of each and every other human right. It involves the conviction that a human being is always sacred and inviolable, in any situation and at every stage of development. Human beings are ends in themselves and never a means of resolving other problems. Once this conviction disappears, so do solid and lasting foundations for the defense of human rights, which would always be subject to the passing whims of the powers that be. Reason alone is sufficient to recognize the inviolable value of each single human life, but if we also look at the issue from the standpoint of faith, every violation of the personal dignity of the human being cries out in vengeance to God and is an offense against the creator of the individual.

Precisely because this involves the internal consistency of our message about the value of the human person, the Church cannot be expected to change her position on this question. I want to be completely honest in this regard. This is not something subject to alleged reforms or “modernizations”. It is not “progressive” to try to resolve problems by eliminating a human life.

The Lord gives wisdom, from His mouth come knowledge and understanding; He has counsel in store for the upright, He is the shield of those who walk honestly, guarding the paths of justice, protecting the way of His pious ones.

Then you will understand rectitude and justice, honesty, every good path; for wisdom will enter your heart, knowledge will please your soul, discretion will watch over you, understanding will guard you.

Proverbs 2:6-11

The Sacredness of the Bible

Sacred Scripture is the speech of God as it is put down in writing rendering the breath of the Holy Spirit. He inspired human authors, or instrumental authors, to write what He wanted them to say.

God in His great love has chosen to reveal Himself to us so that through His Son, we might enter into communion with Him. In so doing, God gives evidence of His existence and has planted within the human heart a desire to better know Him.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church helps us and our understanding by the following points:

- *God is the author of Sacred Scripture.* “The divinely revealed realities, which are contained and presented in the text of Sacred Scripture, have been written down under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit.”
- “For Holy Mother Church, relying on the faith of the apostolic age, accepts as sacred and canonical the books of the Old and the New Testaments, whole and entire, with all their parts, on the ground that, written under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, they have God as their author and have been handed on as such to the Church herself.”
- God inspired the human authors of the sacred books. “To compose the sacred books, God chose certain men who, all the while He employed them in this task, made full use of their own faculties and powers so that, though He acted in them and by them, it was as true authors that they consigned to writing whatever He wanted written, and no more.”
- The inspired books teach the truth. “Since therefore all that the inspired authors or sacred writers affirm should be regarded as affirmed by the Holy Spirit, we must acknowledge that the books of Scripture firmly, faithfully, and without error teach that truth which God, for the sake of our salvation, wished to see confided to the Sacred Scriptures.”
- Still, the Christian faith is not a “religion of the book.” Christianity is the religion of the “Word” of God, “not a written and mute word, but incarnate and living.” If the Scriptures are not to remain a dead letter, Christ, the eternal Word of the living God, must, through the Holy Spirit,” open our minds to understand the Scriptures.”

Shared Blessings of Warmth and Contentment

By Deb Hilton

Imagine a place where you are surrounded by warmth every day. A place where there is never a need for a winter coat or boots. Envision a land where sunshine fills every day. Our winter was so cold and what a welcome change that place would be. Sr. Bea Leising, sister of our parishioner, Mary Charles, lives in such a place. How wonderful?

Timau, East Kenya is located on the slopes of Mount Kenya. It is on the far east side of Africa and half way around the world from Akron, NY. Sister Bea, a Franciscan sister based in Williamsville, was assigned to the Timau mission in Kenya last November. The country is indeed warm, and filled with sunshine. But it is also filled with invasive poverty. There is no need for snow boots or winter coats. There is a need for many items that we take for granted. Contentment in this part of the world consists of owning a single pair of shoes, finding safe water, eating one simple meal a day, having access to education and consistent employment. There, in Timau, East Kenya stark contrasts exists: the joy of warm sunshine and the devastation of poverty touch nearly every life. Those contrasts generate questions of how and what to do. Sister Bea’s response was to leave Western New York. As a woman religious, she was assigned to live and work at the Franciscan Sisters of Timau Catholic Mission. Sister Bea joined Sister Joanne Gangloff, where together they work at a compound that includes a church, rectory, 10 small mission praying stations, schools, a center for the aging and a food distribution center.

What questions do we as a parish community, hear? How can we help and what should we do? There are many opportunities. We can’t trade Buffalo snow for African sunshine but perhaps we can set up a bridge that lets us financially share that which we are blessed to have in excess.

The Church's Teaching's

On Conscience Rights and Religious Liberty

All are bound to follow their conscience faithfully in every sphere of activity so that they may come to God, who is their last end. Therefore, the individual must not be forced to act against conscience nor be prevented from acting according to conscience, especially in religious matters. The reason is because the practice of religion of its very nature consists primarily of those voluntary and free internal acts by which human kind cannot be commanded or forbidden by any merely human authority.

*Declaration on Religious Liberty
Second Vatican Council*

On Assisted Suicide

To concur with the intention of another person to commit suicide and to help in carrying it out through so-called "assisted suicide" means to cooperate in, and at times to be the actual perpetrator of, an injustice which can never be excused, even if it is requested. In a remarkable relevant passage Saint Augustine writes that "it is never licit to kill another: even if he should wish it, indeed if he request it because, hanging between life and death, he begs for help in freeing the soul struggling against the bonds of the body and longing to be released; nor is it licit even when a sick person is no longer able to live." . . . Moreover, the act of euthanasia appears all the more perverse if it is carried out by those, like relatives, who are supposed to treat a family member with patience and love, or by those, such as doctors, who by virtue of their specific profession are supposed to care for the sick person even in the most painful terminal stages.

*Pope John Paul II
Evangelium Vitae (The Gospel of Life), no. 66*

We are one flock under the care of one shepherd; we are fellow travelers on the road to a common destination. As Jesus' servants of unity, we join our voices with His as it is expressed in John's Gospel: "That they may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be one in us."

John 17:21



How Amazing!

By Sister Ruth

Every day with sunshine seems like heaven after the winter that seemed to last and last. What a delightful sight to see the daffodils and hyacinths and tulips sprout from the ground this spring.

These bulb plants seem to open at the first warmth of the sun and burst through with beautiful colors. They are the "Alleluia" flowers of the first to be raised, so to speak, from the cold of winter.

Now is a good time to ask if we feel warmed by the sun, warmed by the resurrection of Our Lord from the dead. Or are we "buried" in our ways and bad habits, choosing to be crusty and closed in on ourselves. Jesus' life, death and resurrection give us the grace, the life, the power to be God's people. Let us be open and free to receive the warmth of His love. Like the disciples on the way to Emmaus, we can say "Were not our hearts burning within us while He was talking to us on the road, while He was opening the scriptures to us?" (Luke 24:32)



Your Parish Needs You!!!

Volunteers are needed for the following tasks:

- Money Counters (Sunday or Monday mornings)
- Liturgy of the Word for our young people - Sundays at 10:15 am Mass
- Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, and Altar Servers
- Choir Members
- Regular and Substitute Religious Education Catechists and Aides
- Nurses or EMT's for Blood Pressure Screenings (once a month)
- Volunteers to help with the parish picnic in August

Your parish is only as prosperous as you want it to be - Volunteer today!!!

Call the rectory at 542-9103
if you can help in any way!

(Summer residents are welcome to help!)

Prayer to Our Lady, Undoer of Knots

A favorite prayer of Pope Francis, going back to his days in Argentina, is to Our Lady, Undoer of Knots. It is said to have its origin in the writings of St. Irenaeus of Lyon who was martyred in 202. He wrote:

“Eve by her disobedience, tied the knot of disgrace for the human race, whereas, Mary, by her obedience, undid it.”

Her Prayer

Virgin Mary, Mother of fair love, Mother who never refuses to come to the aid of a child in need, Mother whose hands never cease to serve your beloved children because they are moved by the divine love and immense mercy that exists in your heart, cast your compassionate eyes upon me and see the snarl of knots that exist in my life. You know very well how desperate I am, my pain, and how I am bound by these knots. Mary, Mother to whom God entrusted the undoing of the knots in the lives of His children, I entrust into your hands the ribbon of my life. No one, not even the Evil One himself, can take it away from your precious care. In your hands there is no knot that cannot be undone. Powerful Mother, by your grace and intercessory power with Your Son and My Liberator, Jesus, take into your hands today this knot.

(mention your petition here)

I beg you to undo it for the glory of God, one for all. You are my hope. O my Lady, you are the only consolation God gives me, the fortification of my feeble strength, the enrichment of my destitution, and, with Christ, the freedom from my chains. Hear my plea. Keep me, guide me, protect me, O safe refuge!
Amen.

2014 Catholic Charities Appeal

It is our prayerful desire that ALL members of our parish consider thoughtfully a donation to this great crusade of faith that produces the renewal of Catholic concern for our brothers and sisters in need. Please return your donation by mail, in the collection basket or in person any weekday morning.

Parish Result in 2013: \$59,042.20

Desired Result for 2014: Your best effort!

On a Greater Understanding of Suffering and Happiness and our Relationship with God

The Father, out of His great love for us, is always inviting us to a deeper union with Him, through Christ, and in the Holy Spirit.

In the depths of our heart we know we want this deeper union with God, and yet at times we are frightened at the prospect. We can be tempted to avoid coming closer to God for fear of what His love may ask of us. This is a critical point in the relationship. Many apparently draw back at this juncture, deciding that the closeness of deep love is too demanding. In our relationship with God—unlike what can happen in a relationship with a human person who possesses a wounded nature because of sin—we can be assured that becoming closer to Him will not end in any kind of disappointment. God will never be unreasonable in His demands. Growing, or becoming, through a closer love-union with Him will result in a greater happiness. Our quest for happiness will be more and more satisfied—not without some pain, because our growth does involve suffering. But whether the suffering be now slight, now moderately severe, or even at times seemingly almost unbearable, we know in the depths of our heart we have to want deeper union with God if we truly want to continue to grow, to continue to become. Growth in happiness means developing the union of love with God. And if this means that suffering is one element of that process, then a voice deep within us, rising from the depths of the authentic self, whispers to us that we should be willing to bear with the pain involved—for the sake of a deeper life, a greater becoming, a greater love.

Although our process of growing or becoming is rooted in our relationship with God, this relationship does not stand alone. According to God’s will, our union with Him involves also other relationships. God calls us to the gift of self in relationships with others. He also wants us to be properly related to material creation.

God does not always act according to the more ordinary and predictable ways. He is an infinitely wise God, and His holy wisdom is perfectly capable of leading us along paths previously unknown to us. Whatever the case may be, His ways—if we follow them—always lead us to greater growth, to greater becoming, to greater happiness.

Father Edward Carter, S.J.

The following quotations were taken from a Toronto newspaper. They are samples of comments that individuals wrote down on their claim forms following their auto accidents.

- Coming home, I drove into the wrong house and collided with a tree I don't have.
- I collided with a stationary streetcar coming the opposite direction.
- The other car collided with mine without giving warning of its intentions.
- I heard a horn blow and was struck in the back - a lady was evidently trying to pass me.
- I thought my window was down, but found it was up when I put my hand through it.
- My car was stolen and I sent up a human cry, but it has not been recovered.
- I collided with a stationary truck coming the other way.
- The truck backed through my windshield into my wife's face.
- A pedestrian hit me and went under my car.
- The guy was all over the road. I had to swerve a number of times before I hit him.
- If the other driver had stopped a few yards behind himself, the accident would not have happened.
- In my attempt to kill a fly, I drove into a telephone pole.
- I had been driving my car for 40 years when I fell asleep at the wheel and had an accident.
- I was on my way to the doctor's with rear-end trouble when my universal joint gave way, causing me to have an accident.
- My car was legally parked as it backed into the other vehicle.
- I told the police that I was not injured, but on removing my hat, I found that I had a skull fracture.
- I was sure the old fellow would never make it to the other side of the roadway when I struck him.
- The pedestrian had no idea which way to go, so I ran over him.
- The indirect cause of this accident was a little guy in a small car with a big mouth.
- The telephone pole was approaching fast. I was attempting to swerve out of its path when it struck my front end.
- I pulled away from the side of the road, glanced at my mother-in-law, and headed over the embankment.

Looking For A Miracle

For a miracle, take one shepherd's sheepskin, throw in a pinch of now, a grain of long ago, and a handful of tomorrow. Add by eye a little bit of ground, a piece of sky.

And it will happen. For miracles, gravitating to earth, know just where people will be waiting, and eagerly will find the right address and tenant, even in a wilderness.

Or, if you're leaving home, switch on a new four-pointed star in Heaven as you do, to light a vacant world with steady blaze and follow you forever with its gaze.

Joseph Brodsky

The Sacrament of Confirmation

Each fall season, our parish is privileged to offer the Sacrament of Confirmation.

The youth of our Religious Education Program are prepared in the 10th and 11th grades for this distinctive mark of adult Catholicism. It is also offered to any adult who never having received the sacrament desires to do so. Every baptized Catholic not yet Confirmed can and should receive this Sacrament.

Confirmation leads a person toward a more intimate union with Christ and a more lively familiarity with the Holy Spirit. His actions, His gifts and His biddings - in order to be more capable of assuming the apostolic responsibilities of Christian life.

There is a relationship between the Sacraments of Baptism, Holy Eucharist and Confirmation in that they together form a unity that we call the Sacraments of Initiation.

St. Ambrose centuries ago wrote:

"Recall then that you have received the spiritual seal, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of right judgment and courage, the spirit of knowledge and reverence, the spirit of holy fear in God's presence. Guard what you have received. God the Father has marked you with His sign. Christ the Lord has confirmed you and has placed His pledge, the Spirit, in your hearts."

In late August, we will announce a gathering for those adults interested in Confirmation or you may contact the Rectory at that time.

Canticle of Mary

Luke 1:46-55

The soul rejoices in the Lord

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, my spirit rejoice in God my Savior for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.

From this day all generations will call me blessed the Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his Name.

He has mercy on those who fear him in every generation.

He has shown the strength of his arm, he has scattered the proud in their conceit.

He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, and has lifted up the lowly.

He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent away empty.

He has come to the help of his servant Israel for he has remembered his promise of mercy, the promise he made to our fathers, to Abraham and his children for ever.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.



Dear Parents,

The end of the learning year is coming quickly. At the last class this year, which will be on May 18th, the students and catechists will give thanks for a year of growing in our Catholic faith together. All of us learned something new—and all of us will continue to learn about our Catholic faith our entire lives.

You and your child(ren) might consider marking the end of this learning year with the following prayer:

Dear God,

May everything we learned this past year make our Catholic faith stronger; make us willing to share our faith with others; make us more generous and forgiving; and make us more peaceful in all our dealings with others. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord and Savior. Amen.

Have a wonderful summer! See you in Church!

Sincerely in Christ,

Sister Ruth and the Catechists

What's Your Catholic IQ?

Here is a fun exercise to help you review the Catholic faith and learn more. Circle the letter next to the word or phrase that correctly completes each statement. Then check your answers with the answer key below.

- As Catholics, we proclaim Mary as the mother of (a) the earth; (b) Jesus; (c) John the Baptist; (d) St. Peter
- The 150 Psalms in the Bible are a collection of ancient Jewish _____ (a) fairy tales; (b) laws; (c) secrets; (d) songs
- The Catholic religion started in Rome at the Vatican. True or False
- The lector reads from the _____ (a) altar; (b) alb; (c) ambo; (d) music stand
- A cross with the body of Jesus crucified on it is called a ____ (a) crucible; (b) chrysanthemum; (c) crucifix; (d) christus
- When we receive Christ in the Eucharist, we receive His ____ (a) bread and wine; (b) body only; (c) blood only; (d) body and blood
- We express sorrow for our sins at the beginning of Mass when we pray "I confess to God, the Father almighty." This prayer is part of the _____.(a) Gloria; (b) Procession; (c) Penitential Act; (d) Eucharistic Prayer
- "Take this, all of you, and _____ it: this is my body which will be given up for you." (a) share; (b) bless; (c) drink; (d) eat
- The Mysteries of the Rosary focus on the lives of the saints. True or False
- Sins of ____ are acts of goodness that someone chooses not to do. (a) omission; (b) morality; (c) the tongue; (d) the unbeliever
- Saint Catherine Laboure was asked by Mary to distribute medals known as the _____. (a) Presidential Medal; (b) Medal of Honor; (c) Miraculous Medal; (d) Scapular
- Jesus said, "Let the ____ come to me . . .for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these." (a) saints; (b) holy ones; (c) Apostles; (d) children

- Answers to Catholic IQ Quiz:
1. B - Jesus
 2. D - Songs
 3. False
 4. C - Ambo
 5. C - Crucifix
 6. D - Body and Blood
 7. C - Penitential Act
 8. D - Eat
 9. False
 10. A - omission
 11. C - Miraculous Medal
 12. D - children

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On the Planning Board . . .

**Healing Mass with St. Luke's Mission Choir -
June 25 at 7:00 pm**

**Development of Additional Section of
Cemetery**

Statue of the Risen Christ for the Cemetery

**Vacation Bible School
- July 14-18, 2014 -**

Parish Picnic - August 9, 2014

**The Visiting Statue of Our Lady of Fatima -
August 2014**