

# St. Teresa of Avila Church

Est. 1869

FEBRUARY 26, 2023 - FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

## PASTOR

Rev. Arthur E. Mattulke  
Email: [pastorsttakron@gmail.com](mailto:pastorsttakron@gmail.com)

## DEACON

Ron Adamczak

## RECTORY

5771 Buell Street  
P.O. Box 168  
Akron, NY 14001  
(716) 542-9103

Office Hours: Tuesday, Thursday,  
& Friday  
8:30 AM–12:30 PM

E-mail: [stteresasofakron@verizon.net](mailto:stteresasofakron@verizon.net)  
Website: [stteresasofakron.com](http://stteresasofakron.com)

## PARISH SECRETARY

Jean Bacon

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION DIRECTOR

Sr. M. Ruth Warejko, CSSF

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION OFFICE

5775 Buell Street  
(716) 542-9103 Ext. 2  
Website: [stredakron.wordpress.com](http://stredakron.wordpress.com)

## CONVENT

5773 Buell Street  
(716) 542-9717

## BUSINESS/CEMETERY MANAGER

Melissa Sanford

## PARISH TRUSTEES

Dick Campbell      Wally Smith

## 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.

*For 100 years,  
Catholic Charities  
has been a beacon  
of HOPE for people  
of all faiths, races  
and walks of life.*

**Please support  
Appeal 2023.**

[ccwny.org/donate](http://ccwny.org/donate)



## MASS SCHEDULE

*Sunday Liturgies* .....8:00 AM, 10:15 AM  
*Saturday Vigil*.....4:30 PM  
*Daily Mass* .....8:00 AM, except Wednesday 5:30 PM  
*Saturday* .....9:00 AM  
*Vigil of Holy Days* .....5:30 PM  
*Holy Days* .....8:00 AM, 7:30 PM

## SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturdays 3:00 to 4:00 PM  
First Saturday 8:15 to 8:45 AM  
Vigil of Holy Days 3:30 to 4:15 PM  
*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 whose children attend Religious Education.



## MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Mon., February 27

8:00 John Hawes on the  
Anniversary of His Death  
By *Mary Hawes*

Fri., March 3 - St. Katherine Drexel

Sat., March 4

4:30 Judy Abraham  
by *The Zurlo Family*

Sun., March 5

8:00 Judith Bell Sr.  
by *Kathy Capan*

10:15 Jean Kisker  
by *George & Ellen Faucett &  
Family*

(No Masses Tuesday, Wednesday,  
Thursday, Friday and Saturday Morning  
due to Fr. Art's Vacation.  
We welcome Fr. David Borowiak who will  
celebrate the weekend Masses.)



### Scripture Readings For the Week

Monday - Leviticus 19:1-2, 11-18  
Matthew 25:31-46

Tuesday - Isaiah 55:10-11  
Matthew 6:7-15

Wednesday - Jonah 3:1-10  
Luke 11:29-32

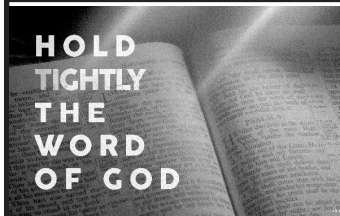
Thursday - Esther C:12, 14-16, 23-25  
Matthew 7:7-12

Friday - Ezekiel 18:21-28  
Matthew 5:20-26

Saturday - Deuteronomy 26:16-19  
Matthew 5:43-48

Sunday - Genesis 12:1-4a  
2 Timothy 1:8b-10  
Matthew 17:1-9

Remember a loved one, living or  
deceased in a  
special way with a  
Mass. Contact the  
parish office to reserve a date.



February 26, 2023

1st Sunday of Lent

The Spirit leads Jesus into the desert to be tempted by the devil, and we hear this: "He fasted for forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was hungry." Seems like a questionable battle preparation plan. When I fast, I usually feel grouchy at best, and at worst, like I might pass out from longing for a hamburger. Isn't it better to be well-fed and fully hydrated, especially to face spiritual struggles? Why fast? This might help. The origin of the word "fast" means to "hold firmly." We still use it that way when we say, "I held fast to my original decision." We human beings are a bundle of desires which vie for our attention: food, drink, comfort, safety, sex, laughter, beauty, and so on. If we can't manage to have firm grip on them, in short order they'll have a firm grip on us. By fasting from our lower desires, we learn to firmly grip on to what is greater. Fasting leads to us to a firmer hold on our body and mind. Jesus fasts for us. He's showing us that his grace can help us regain this firm hold of our lives, which makes it more difficult for the devil to tempt us. But take it one more step. Fasting also teaches us to finally hold fast to Jesus, the Word of God in flesh. "Man does not live by bread alone," he says, "But by every word that comes forth from the mouth of God." Jesus' fasting reveals his fast hold to the Father in everything. May our fasting help us to grasp ourselves more firmly, and then to hold fast to Jesus alone.

— Father John Muir

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REMEMBER  
IN YOUR  
PRAYERS

For the people throughout the world who live with the reality of crime, trauma, and barbarous actions, may the Lord offer them safety, strength, and consolation; we pray to the Lord....

Please pray for the sick of the parish and their family members, especially: Bill Hawes, Viola Izydorczak, Gary Karaskiewicz, Louis Pulvino, Sarah Berlinger, Austin Penn, Jim & Joe Vasi, Sterling McCarriagher, Virginia Maloney, Bob Tiedt, Jean Ottney, Shirley Lantz, Donna Stock, Rita Whalen, Laura Gray, Francis LaClair, baby Isla Smith, Grayson Sanders, Deb Smith & Lorraine Sylvester

#### \*\* YOUR PARISH OFFERING \*\*

Funds needed per week in February for Expenses: \$5,162  
In Pew 2/12/2023

Sunday Collection

\$ 3,877

The gift of your donation allows us to continue the mission of Christ here at St. Teresa's. Thank you for your generosity.

Catholic Charities Update  
Parish Goal: \$40,000  
Current Total: \$11,620



We have reached 29% of our goal with 52 donors!  
Thank you for your generosity!

## FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT - FEBRUARY 26, 2023

**Lenten Reflection Retreat** - Please join in Bishop Robert Barron's "Conversion Following the Call of Christ" Study facilitated by Rose Elliott for the next 6 weeks. There will be a 15-20 minute video on a conversion story from the Bible, starting with Bartimaeus, which will be followed by a group discussion. The first session is this Wednesday, March 1st, and will begin at 6 PM in the Church (reminder there is no Mass).



**Collection for Response to Love Center** - As we approach Valentine's Day, please donate personal care items for the needy: toothbrushes, toothpaste, shampoo, soaps for personal hygiene, also laundry items, baby diapers. Thank you for your generosity and thoughtfulness! Boxes are available in the narthex until the end of the month.

**Religious Education:** When we look at the two beams of the Cross, think of the vertical beam representing our relationship with God and the horizontal beam representing our relationship with others. Let us hold each other in prayer and offer our needs to God.

**Please Note:** Fr. Art will be on vacation February 28 - March 4. There will be no daily Masses held at St. Teresa's during his vacation. Please join our sister Parishes for daily Mass. Our Lady of Peace in Clarence has weekday Mass on Mon 8:00 AM, Tue-Thu 6:30 & 8:00 AM, Fri 6:30 AM. St. Maximilian Kolbe weekday Mass is Monday and Friday - 8:00 AM at Corfu Site; Tuesday and Thursday - 8:00 AM at E. Pembroke Site; Wednesday - 7:00 PM at Corfu Site. Fr. David Borowiak will be present for the weekend Masses. The rectory office will remain open.

**The Women's Bible Study Group** will meet on Friday mornings @ 8:45 am in the Parish Meeting Room. Ladies feel free to join us on a seven week study on the *Book of Ruth*. Any questions, you can call Lori @585-409-3133.

Eucharistic Minister Training Session  
Saturday, March 11, 2023  
St. Gregory the Great Gathering Space  
10:00 am to 12:00 pm  
Reservations are required. Please call the parish office if you are interested in becoming a Eucharistic Minister at St. Teresa's.

**Spaghetti Dinner** - Our Lady of Pompeii Spaghetti and Meatball Dinner, 3/12 from 12 Noon until 4 PM in the Ministry Center, 129 Laverack Ave, Lancaster. Dine in or sit down! Homemade sauce, meatballs, salad, bread & butter, cakes and coffee & tea! 12.00 for Adults. 10.00 for Senior Citizens 65+. Tickets are available in the parish office and at the door. Info: 716-683-6522

**Looking to deepen your reflection during the upcoming Lent?** Ever thought of checking out the St. Teresa of Avila lending library? We've relocated to the first room on the right in the school when you are coming from the Church. It is currently a work in progress as we update our collection. The library will be open for approximately one hour after each weekend Mass, starting Saturday, February 25th. Stop in and peruse. And by all means, if you've recently encountered a book that inspired you, please stop by and share a recommendation.

**Two-Day Lenten Mission** - The Beloved Disciples of Christ the Lord Family of Parishes, (Our Lady of Pompeii & St Mary's in Lancaster, St Martha's and St Teresa of Calcutta in Depew, Sacred Heart in Bowmansville, and St Philip in Cheektowaga), will sponsor a Two-Day Lenten Mission entitled "A Journey to Joy" on March 20, and March 21, at 7:00 p.m. The mission, presented by Emmy-nominated performer Frank Runyeon, will be held at St. Martha Church, 10 French Road, Depew, NY 14043, (716) 684-6342.

**23RD Annual Lenten Series** - Monday, February 27th, "St. Gabriel of Our Lady of Sorrows": Maria Suchyna will speak about St. Gabriel of Our Lady of Sorrows and his life journey from Sinner to Saint. Infant of Prague Church, 921 Cleveland Dr., Cheektowaga, NY 14225.

**VOCATION VIEW** - Lent is here - time to challenge ourselves to be holier. This year, don't just give something up - start a new life in ministry! Contact Fr. Dave Baker at 716-847-5535 or visit [buffalovocations.org](http://buffalovocations.org).



Did you hear the one about the man who opened a dry cleaning business next door to the convent? He knocked on the door and asked the Mother Superior if she had any dirty habits.

### Upcoming Dates to Remember

- **Weekend of February 25/26** - Parish Library open 1 hour after each weekend Mass
- **Sunday, February 26** - Religious Education Classes 9:00 am - 10:00 am and 11:15 am - 12:30 pm
- **Wednesday, March 1** - Lenten Retreat in the Church, 6 pm  
Reminder: There is no Wednesday Evening Mass this week
- **Friday, March 3** - Women's Group, 8:45 AM in the Parish Meeting Room
- **Saturday, March 4** - Pro-Life Prayer Group, 9:30 am, in the parking lot near the Blessed Mother Mary statue
- **Weekend of March 4/5** - Parish Library open 1 hour after each weekend Mass
- **Sunday, March 5** - Religious Education Classes 9:00 am - 10:00 am and 11:15 am - 12:30 pm

#### UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

In re The Diocese of Buffalo, N.Y.,  
Case No. 20-10322

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT, On February 28, 2020, The Diocese of Buffalo, N.Y. ("Diocese") filed for protection under chapter 11 of title 11 of the United States Code (the "Bankruptcy Code").

The Court entered an Order (the "Supplemental Bar Date Order") setting April 17, 2023, at 11:59 P.M. (prevailing Eastern time) (the "Supplemental Bar Date") as the deadline to assert claims against the Diocese arising from or relating to abuse that occurred when the survivor was 18 years of age or older, and which, prior to the enactment of the Adult Survivors Act (S.66A/A.648A) would have been subject to a statute of limitations defense ("Adult Claims").

If you have an Adult Claim against the Diocese you must file a claim on or before the Supplemental Bar Date.

ANY CLAIM FILED PURSUANT TO THE SUPPLEMENTAL BAR DATE ORDER SHALL BE WITHOUT PREJUDICE TO THE RIGHT OF ANY PARTY IN INTEREST TO ASSERT OBJECTIONS TO ANY CLAIM OR ITS TIMELINESS.

Please visit <https://case.stretto.com/diocesefofbuffalo> or call (855) 292-7696 for more information on how to file your proof of claim.

IF YOU DO NOT TIMELY FILE A PROOF OF CLAIM, YOU MAY FORFEIT YOUR RIGHT TO VOTE ON ANY PLAN OF REORGANIZATION AND TO SHARE IN ANY DISTRIBUTIONS TO CREDITORS IN CONNECTION WITH THE DIOCESE'S CHAPTER 11 CASE.



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS  
THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK:

"Nevertheless, the liturgy of this day is not focused on the sinfulness of the penitent but on the mercy of God. The question is raised precisely because this is a day of mercy, and the just do not need a savior."

Thomas Merton