

# St. Teresa of Avila Church

Est. 1869



## PASTOR

Rev. Thomas M. Mahoney  
Frtomfamily15@gmail.com

## SENIOR PAROCHIAL VICARS

Rev. Walter J. Szczesny  
Rev. Arthur E. Mattulke

Email: pastorstakron@gmail.com

## PAROCHIAL VICAR

Rev. Joseph N. Franz

## 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

Website: stteresasofakron.com

## PARISH SECRETARY

Jean Bacon

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION DIRECTOR

Sr. M. Ruth Warejko, CSSF

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION OFFICE

5775 Buell St. (716) 542-9103 Ext. 2  
Website: streledakron.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.



SEPTEMBER 17, 2023 - THE 24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Pictured with a Sabres fleece and flannel blanket are Sandy Kreher, Trish Sharkey and Ruth Schmatz of St. Teresa's Women's Guild Quilt Ministry. See inside for more details.

## MASS SCHEDULE

|                                 |                                   |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <i>Sunday Liturgy</i> .....     | 9:00 AM                           |
| <i>Saturday Vigil</i> .....     | 4:00 PM                           |
| <i>Daily Mass</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 2:30 to 3:30 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., September 18

8:00 Luca Khan - Birthday Blessings  
by *Grandma*

Tues., September 19

8:00 Special Intentions

Wed., September 20 - St. Andrew

5:30 Intentions for Fathers

Thurs., September 21 - St. Matthew

8:00 Intentions for Mothers

Fri., September 22

8:00 Mary Clare Marinelli - Birthday  
Blessings by *Mary Olsen*

Sat., September 23 - St. Pio

9:00 For the People of St. Teresa's  
Parish by *Fr. Tom Mahoney*

4:00 Ruth & Lester Schock  
by *The Schock Family*

Sun., September 24

9:00 John & Helen Capan  
by *Daughter*  
&

Bob Tiedt  
by *Pat & Cathy Feldman*



## Scripture Readings For the Week

Monday - 1 Timothy 2:1-8  
Luke 7:1-10

Tuesday - 1 Timothy 3:1-13  
Luke 7:11-17

Wednesday - 1 Timothy 3:14-16  
Luke 7:31-35

Thursday - Ephesians 4:1-7, 11-13  
Matthew 9:9-13

Friday - 1 Timothy 6:2c-12  
Luke 8:1-3

Saturday - 1 Timothy 6:13-16  
Luke 8:4-15

Sunday - Isaiah 55:6-9  
Philippians 1:20c-24, 27a  
Matthew 20:1-16a



The 2024 Mass Book  
is now open.  
Remember a loved  
one, living or deceased in  
a special way with a Mass.  
Contact the parish  
office to reserve a date.



September 17, 2023

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

When I was in second grade, my prized possession was a metal Star Wars-themed lunch box. After school one day, another student ripped it from my hands. I helplessly watched in horror as my classmate threw it to the ground and violently stomped it into an unrecognizable heap of junk. I came home covered in tears of shame and rage. After a few months, I never thought about it again ... until I was almost thirty years old and on a retreat to prepare for ordination to the priesthood.

That childhood memory – and the attendant outrage – came back afresh. My spiritual director helped me in the process of acknowledging that I was angry because that kid owed me my lunch box. Then she helped me, through the grace of Jesus, to forgive the debt. Almost immediately I felt a new peace. I was amazed that I hadn't forgotten what I had lost, even from years before. Aren't we human beings simply amazing at remembering what people owe us?

We see this week in Jesus' parable a servant who is forgiven much but then commands another servant: "Pay back what you owe!" He can't forget or let go of how he was wronged. He remembers – and he becomes a monster because of it. If only he had remembered not only the debts owed to him, but also his greater debt owed to – and forgiven by – his master. It's natural for us to remember what others owe us. But when we contextualize those offenses in Jesus' mercy toward us and them, we're free to be merciful like the Master and less like a monster who never forgets.

– Father John Muir

©LPi



That all victims of natural disasters, especially those we have experienced in the U.S., may find God's comfort in their suffering, and help each other survive their devastation; we pray to the Lord....

Please pray for the sick of the parish and their family members, especially: Sarah Berlinger, Viola Izydorczak, Louis Pulvino, Austin Penn, Jim & Joe Vasi, Sterling McCarragher, Jean Ottney, Shirley Lantz, Rita Whalen, Kathy Sylvester and Laura Gray.

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Kathryn Nicosia.

Please also pray for the sacredness of all human life from conception until natural death.

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

Funds needed per week in August for Expenses: \$ 4,245

In Pew 8/27/2023

**Sunday Collection**

**\$ 4,230**

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



Why is Peter Pan always flying? Because he Neverlands.

**On the Front Cover** - St. Teresa's Women's Guild Quilt Ministry has been asked, by Sr. Johnice of the Response to Love Center, to provide quilts/blankets for the community of men at the Center. Currently the Quilters are making fleece and flannel blankets, with 15 completed to date, with a goal to make another 15 and perhaps even more. If you have fleece or flannel fabric that you would like to donate, or, if you wish to make a monetary donation to the Women's Guild to purchase more fabric for these blankets, it would be much appreciated. Please call the Rectory at 716-542-9103 or Quilter Trish Sharkey at 716-462-2883. Many thanks for helping the Quilting Ministry and Sr. Johnice's Center.

**Religious Education:** Classes resumed last weekend for all grades. Thanks to everyone who helped the children find their classrooms, their classmates and their catechists. Because of the new Mass schedule, we are using every room on Sunday mornings. Class times: K-6 10-11 and 7-11 10 - 11:15.

**ATTENTION ALL STRONG ARMED PARISHIONERS** - We need a few strong arms and legs to help the Guild Girls set up tables for our Fall Craft Show. Please join us on Sat., September 23 at 9:15 in the Church Hall. We will thank you with donuts, juice and coffee for your time and hard work!!

**ATTENTION ALL PIE BAKERS AND DESSERT MAKERS** - The guild is asking if you will take a pie tin home and bring it back to the Craft Show Bake Sale table the day of the show. Pies, breads, desserts are welcome. Your help with this is greatly appreciated!!!

**The 2023 St. Teresa of Avila MEAT RAFFLE** is scheduled for October 14th. Reservations are now being accepted by: purchasing after Mass this weekend, emailing [jdiggs@diggspro.com](mailto:jdiggs@diggspro.com) OR the rectory at [stteresasofakron@verizon.net](mailto:stteresasofakron@verizon.net). Tickets are \$15.00 each and seating is limited. Baskets for the basket raffle will now be accepted as well - bring to church or to the rectory. Questions - contact John Diggs at 716-770-5751.

**Blessing of Animals** - The Feast of St. Francis of Assisi is October 4th. St. Francis has always been associated with his love of nature and of animals. A special Blessing of Animals will be offered near St. Mary's statue on Sat., September 30th at 1 PM in the church parking lot. We look forward to seeing you and your special pet animals, including stuffed animal friends or anyone who wishes to bring a picture of their pet for this Blessing.

**Are You or Have You Ever Thought of Being an Altar Server?** We are inviting all those interested in becoming a server to altar server training on September 23rd, following the 4:00 pm Mass or on Sunday, September 24th following Religious Education at 11 AM. Please join us for an hour that is sure to change your life forever!



The Mass is nothing short of amazing. Through it, we encounter God in the most intimate way possible as we hear him speak to us in the Liturgy of the Word and as we receive him Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity in the Holy Eucharist. In his video-based study, *A Biblical Walk Through the Mass*, Dr. Edward Sri explores the roots of the words and gestures we experience at Mass and explains their profound significance. Join Deacon Rick for *A Biblical Walk Through the Mass* at St. Mary's for a 5-week class beginning Wed., September 27<sup>th</sup>, 2023. We will meet in the Parish Center at 10:00am or 7:00pm. Please sign up on the St. Mary's website or call the Office of Catholic Education at 716-688-0599 to register.

**The Knights of Columbus C&B Charitable and Benevolent Raffle** booklets are now available for purchase in the vestibule along with instructions on how to fill out tickets stubs and where to submit them. Thank you!

**Vocation View** - St. Paul writes that "None of us lives for oneself, and no one dies for oneself... we live for the Lord." Our self-absorbed culture has forgotten this. You can be a reminder by turning away from your own desires to serve Christ. Contact Fr. Dave Baker at 716-847-5535 or visit [buffalovocations.org](http://buffalovocations.org)

**SIDEWALK SNOW REMOVAL** - Our Lady of Peace Parish is looking to hire someone to facilitate the sidewalk and walkways snow removal during the coming winter months. This would involve shoveling, salting and using the parish snowblower to maintain the sidewalks and keep them safe for when Church Services and other events are held on the Parish campus. If you are interested in this position or would like more information please contact Father Walter at the Parish Rectory Office.....716-759-8554.

**Upcoming Dates to Remember**

- **Sunday, September 17** - Religious Education Classes 10:00 - 11 am Grades K-6 and 10:00 - 11:15 am Grades 7-11
- **Wednesday, September 20** - Life in the Spirit, 6:30 PM OLP
- **Thursday, September 21** - Women's Study Group after the 8 am Mass
- **Saturday, September 23** - Pro-Life Prayer Group, 9:30 am, in the parking lot near the Blessed Mother Mary statue
- **Saturday, September 23** - Altar Server Training following 4 PM Mass
- **Saturday, September 23** - Wine Tasting at OLP, 6 PM
- **Sunday, September 24** - Altar Server Training following Religious Education
- **Sunday, September 24** - Religious Education Classes 10:00 - 11 am Grades K-6 and 10:00 - 11:15 am Grades 7-11

We are now accepting donations of new items, gift cards, baskets and financial donations

**Great Expectations**  
Wine TASTING  
Saturday, Sept. 23 at 6PM  
AT Our Lady of Peace Church  
10950 Main Street, Clarence, NY 14031  
A Sampling of Finger Lakes Fine Wines Gourmet Appetizers  
Advance Ticket \$30  
Tickets at the door \$35  
For information, contact Nova at 716.867.3747

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS  
THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK:

"Without the priest, the passion and death of our Lord would be of no avail. It is the priest who continues the work of

St. John Vianney