

# St. Teresa of Avila Church

Est. 1869

OCTOBER 22, 2023 - THE 29TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

## PASTOR

Rev. Thomas M. Mahoney  
Frtomfamily15@gmail.com

## SENIOR PAROCHIAL VICARS

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

Email: pastorsttakron@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.



Fun was had by all who attended the 2023 Meat Raffle!

## 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., October 23

8:00 Intentions for Mothers

Tues., October 24

8:00 Joseph Bergman - Birthday  
Blessings by Mom & Dad

Wed., October 25

5:30 Tyler Nixon  
by Flumerfeldt Family

Thurs., October 26

8:00 Gabriel Marinelli - Birthday  
Blessing by Mary Olsen

Fri., October 27

8:00 Intentions for Bob Larouere  
by Family

Sat., October 28 - Sts. Simon & Jude

9:00 Sharon Hager  
by Larry & Lori Reisdorf

4:00 Ruth & Lester Schock  
by the Schock Family

Sun., October 29

9:00 Connie Caprio - Wedding  
Anniversary Remembrance  
by Husband & Children



## Scripture Readings For the Week

Monday - Romans 4:20-25  
Luke 12:13-21

Tuesday - Romans 5:12, 15b, 17-19,  
20b-21  
Luke 12:35-38

Wednesday - Romans 6:12-18  
Luke 12:39-48

Thursday - Romans 6:19-23  
Luke 12:49-53

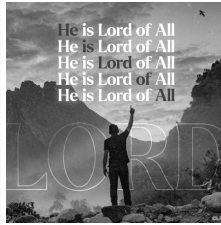
Friday - Romans 7:18-25a  
Luke 12:54-59

Saturday - Ephesians 2:19-22  
Luke 6:12-16

Sunday - Exodus 22:20-26  
1 Thessalonians 1:5c-10  
Matthew 22:34-40



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.



October 22, 2023  
29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

With little more than a year until the United States' national elections, I find myself feeling, like many Catholics, both dread and energized. Dread, because our democratic republic can be a messy endeavor and campaigns a long, nasty, and unedifying slog; energized, because hope for positive societal change can be enticing and engaging. As a pastor, I see similar conflicting attitudes in those whom I serve. How can Catholics best engage our political arena in a way which is truly helpful and worthwhile?

This week's gospel reading offers wisdom in this regard. Jesus says, "Render therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's." This riddle forces us to answer for ourselves a hidden question: what is the relationship between political and divine authority? Two common but false answers lead to mischief. If we answer that the two are equivalent, politics becomes our absolute authority. This happens whenever religion is slave to the state, as in the travesty of the pro-Nazi German Christian movement in the 1930s and 40s. It also usually occurs when there is an official state religion. If we answer that the two are totally unrelated, we end up with an unchecked aggressive secularist state as we often experience now. Thus, religion becomes a weak and private pastime.

What's a better alternative? At our best, Christians hold that political authority does indeed have its own legitimate autonomy but is nested within God's all-encompassing authority. Think, for example, of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s respect for politics while also being able to criticize unjust human laws because he recognized a higher heavenly law. In other words, Caesar owns politics – and God owns Caesar. So, we should allow Jesus' words to lead us to have a deep respect and willingness to peacefully engage in politics without making that engagement our religion. We bring our faith to bear on our politics knowing confidently that Caesar isn't God – but he is indeed God's.

– Father John Muir

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May all who love the Holy Land seek to bring about among all the parties engaged in the fighting, a cessation of violence, respect for civilian populations and the release of hostages; we pray to the Lord...

Please pray for the sick of the parish and their family members, especially: Susan Hegetsweiller, Linda Chaffee, Bob Larouere, Mary Prentice, Louis Pulvino, Ita Steele, Jim & Joe Vasi, Sterling McCarriagher, Jean Ottney, Shirley Lantz, Rita Whalen, Kathy Sylvester and Laura Gray.

Please also pray for the repose of the soul of Viola Izydorczak.

During this Respect Life Month, please pray for the sacredness of all human life from conception until natural death.

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

Funds needed per week in October for Expenses: \$ 4,135

In Pew 10/1/2023

Sunday Collection

\$ 4,320

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

**Religious Education:** Let us pray for our Confirmation candidates who are preparing to receive this sacrament. Let us pray that they be blest with the fullness of God's graces, His joy, His peace, His fortitude. The candidates made their retreat on Saturday, October 21st, at Fatima Shrine in Lewiston.

**FAMILY LOGO DEVELOPMENT** -We are looking for a group of creative people to help develop a logo for our family, Akron Clarence Roman Catholic Community (ACRCC). If you have a graphic arts background or artistic talent you would like to share with our faith family, please attend a meeting with Fr. Tom on Tuesday, October 24, 2023, at 6:00 PM in St. Mary's Parish Center, Rms.110/111. Enter through Door B-1, located in the parking lot behind the school/in front of the new church.

**Today, we celebrate World Mission Sunday,** heeding Pope Francis's call to keep our "Hearts on fire, feet on the move." On this day, we reflect on our baptismal promise to be disciples and missionaries, sharing the Good News. The collection today for the Society for the Propagation of the Faith directly aids priests, religious, and lay leaders in the Pope's missions, allowing them to minister to and uplift communities in dire need. Let's light up the world with our prayers and generosity. Thank you for your heartfelt contribution.

**Respect Life Month** - Every October, we celebrate Respect Life Month. Please take a copy of "**Why We're Pro Life**", a free booklet available in the vestibule that was written by Trent Horn. It helps you to consider more deeply why every human life is valuable and reflect on how to build a culture that protects life from conception to natural death. Provided by the Respect Life Committee of St. Teresa.


**THANKSGIVING BASKETS** - The Women's Guild is once again asking for money donations to purchase food for 15 local families to have a great Thanksgiving meal. We will be in the back of the church at Masses on November 4/5 and November 11/12. Your generosity will be greatly appreciated. We will be assembling the baskets on Saturday November 18th at 9 am in the church hall. If you wish to help, you are welcome to join us.

 St. Teresa's is happy to announce the upcoming wedding nuptials of Rachel "Hanni" Haynes & Matthew Blair on Saturday, November 4th. Congratulations to both Rachel & Matthew! May God Bless their marriage.

**MILK & PORRIDGE/FOLLOW THE CHILDREN** - The weekends of November 5 & November 12, St. Teresa's Women's Guild will be collecting before & after masses to help the children at the mission in Timau, Kenya. Milk & Porridge is \$360 a year (\$30 a month) & will pay for a baby or toddler to receive 2 cups of milk, 2 servings of porridge & 1 serving of either vegetables or fruit a day for a year. Under the Follow the Children program your donation of \$400 (\$33 a month) will provide school books, tuition & 2 meals at school a day for a year. Last year generous parishioners donated \$13,014 which helped 41 children. Please make your check out to Sisters of St. Francis. If you wish you may send your donation to our church office.

**VOCATION VIEW** - "Repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God." We should be good law-abiding citizens, but we should also give Jesus what he wants. Sometimes, he asks for your life in service. If He's asking you, contact Fr. Dave Baker at 716-847-5535 or visit [buffalovocations.org](http://buffalovocations.org)

**HOPE AFTER HEARTACHE** - Tools for Living with Loss. Buffalo Diocesan Catholic Cemeteries offers a comprehensive grief support program for those who have lost a loved one. There are three locations and four meeting choices per month. All are welcome. Open to the community; no charge. Call Marianne Hubert, Director of Grief Support Services, at 716-873-6500 or email [mhubert@buffalocatholiccemeteries.org](mailto:mhubert@buffalocatholiccemeteries.org), for a brochure of grief support times and locations, as well as other activities and remembrance services.

-  \* I asked my friend for one of their Kit Kat fingers, but they accidentally dropped it. It was actually a Butterfinger.
- \* Someone accused me of stealing their Kit Kat. Give me a break.
- \* Two wafers fell into a vat of chocolate. The first one pulled the second one out. the second one said, "Thanks, you're a lifesaver!" The first one said, "Actually, I'm a Kit Kat."

**Upcoming Dates to Remember**

- **Sunday, October 22** - Religious Education Classes  
10:00 - 11 am Grades K-6 and  
10:00 - 11:15 am Grades 7-11
- **Tuesday, October 24** - Family Logo Development, 6 PM in St. Mary's Parish Center, Rms.110/111.
- **Wednesday, October 25** - Life in the Spirit, 6:30 PM OLP
- **Thursday, October 26** - Women's Study Group after the 8 am Mass
- **Saturday, October 28** - Pro-Life Prayer Group, 9:30 am, in the parking lot near the Blessed Mother Mary statue
- **Sunday, October 29** - Religious Education Classes  
10:00 - 11 am Grades K-6 and  
10:00 - 11:15 am Grades 7-11



While there is no suggestion here that all such situations of poverty can be resolved by the parish, there is no doubt that an evangelizing Catholic community can be tested by its attitude to the poor and by the measures it takes to meet them and show them Christian love.

Francis Cardinal Arinze from his book *The Evangelizing Parish*