

St. Teresa of Avila Parish

1878 Abbe Road Sheffield Village, Ohio 44054

December 24, 2017

Fourth Sunday of Advent



PARISH INFORMATION

BAPTISMS: Baptisms are celebrated after the Noon mass on Sundays. A pre-baptism class is required for the first child. For class information call the rectory. Arrangements should be made shortly before or after the birth of the child.

COMMUNION CALLS: are made on Sundays by Eucharistic Ministers to the homebound. Please call the Rectory to schedule.

MATRIMONY: Couples need to make arrangements at least six months prior to the wedding date. No date may be reserved until discussed with a priest of the parish.

NEW PARISHIONERS: Call the Rectory to register.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION: Interested in becoming a member of the Catholic Church? Call the Rectory for more information.

CONFESSIONS

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Sat. 3:30 - 4:00 PM or by appointment.

CONTACT US

Rectory Office.....(440) 934-4227
Office Hours.....Monday – Friday 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Fax.....(440) 934-4500
E-mailst.teresa.church@neohio.twcbc.com
Website..... www.stteresaparish.com

MASSES

Sunday Vigil.....Saturday 4:30 PM
Sunday:.....8:30 AM and 11:00 AM
Holy Day Vigil:.....Watch Bulletin
Holy Day:.....Watch Bulletin
Civic Holidays:.....Watch Bulletin
Wednesday & Friday:.....8:30 AM

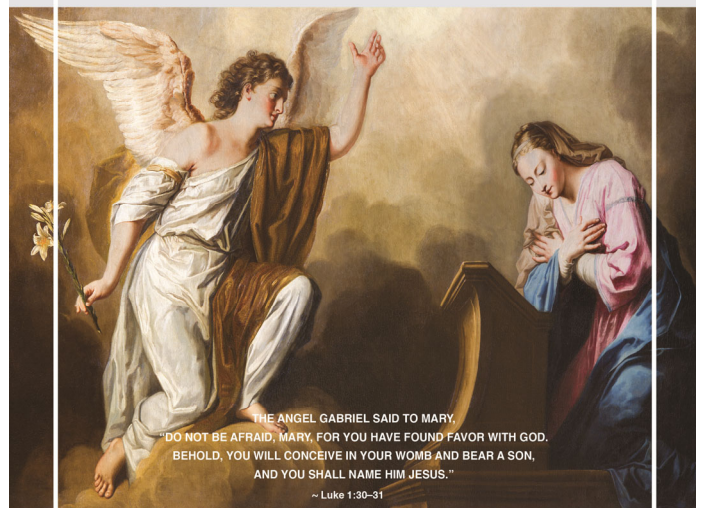
STAFF

Reverend Edward J. Smith, Pastor
Fr. Thomas Sanders, OSB, Weekend Associate
Debbie Wehler, Sue DiVaccaro, Secretaries
Michael Joris, Parish Council Chairperson
Lou Varos, Finance Council Chairperson

ST. TERESA OF AVILA CHURCH is handicap accessible.

ADVENT

DECEMBER 24, 2017 | FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT



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**FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
DECEMBER 24, 2017**

"The promises of the LORD I will sing forever." Psalm 89:2

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Weekly Goal \$4,000.00
December 17 \$4,041.00
Children's \$8.00

Please keep St. Teresa Parish in mind when making out your will.

KEEP THESE PARISHIONERS IN YOUR PRAYERS

Luz Villanueva, Eleanor Rieth
Pat Chozinski, Marty Lima, Mike Gall
Gladys Mackert, Maebelle Fill
Gladys Wisnieski, Kathleen Brezinski
Donna Satorius, Patricia Welsh
Greg Brezinski, Don Kirchner
Shirley Karasevic, Peg King

MONTHLY SPIRITUAL MAXIM

Love is the genuine fruit of prayer when prayer is rooted in humility.
St. Teresa of Avila

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

For those advanced in age, sick, or undergoing surgery. Administered upon request. Contact the Rectory.

PSR (Parish School of Religion)

Classes take place on Tuesdays from 6 - 7:15 p.m. for grades 1-8. Call with questions to 934-4227.

No classes on December 26, 2017 and January 2, 2018.

Have a blessed Christmas!

CONFIRMATION CLASSES

Classes begin January 7, 2018, at 8:30 a.m. for Mass at St. Teresa of Avila Parish with class following in the Parish Life Center.



CHURCH OFFICE CHRISTMAS HOURS

The Church Office will be closed on December 25, 26, 29, and January 1, 2018.

HOLY SPIRIT, BRING TO US A DESIRE FOR EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

"A Holy Hour of Adoration in our modern rat race is necessary for authentic prayer." Archbishop Fulton Sheen

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, December 23 St. John of Kanty
4:30 p.m. +Robert Dolacki by Alan & Gail Greaves

Sunday, December 24 Fourth Sunday of Advent
8:30 a.m. +Otto Klaameyer by Arline La Riccia
11:00 a.m. People of St. Teresa Parish

Sunday, December 24 Vigil of the Nativity of the Lord
4:30 p.m. deceased f the Smith & McCoy families
10:00 p.m. People of St. Teresa Parish

Monday, December 25 THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD
8:30 a.m. for the Becherer family

Tuesday, December 26 St. Stephen
NO MASS

Wednesday, December 27 St. John, Apostle & Evangelist
8:30 a.m. +Edward & Violet Trudnowski by Phil & Joan

Thursday, December 28 The Holy Innocents
NO MASS

Friday, December 29
8:30 a.m. All Souls

Saturday, December 30
4:30 p.m. +Paul & Ruth Smith by Paul & Lou Ann

Sunday, December 31 The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph
8:30 a.m. Joseph Leo Summers by Grandma
11:00 a.m. People of St. Teresa Parish



CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday, December 24 - 4:30 p.m. Children's Mass
10:00 p.m.

Monday, December 25 8:30 a.m.

Please note: regular Mass schedule for the Fourth Sunday of Advent remains: 4:30 p.m. Saturday, December 23 and 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. on Sunday, December 24.

MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

There is NO Holy Day of Obligation this year for the celebration of Mary, the Holy Mother of God. St. Teresa has no Mass on Monday, January 1, 2018. St. Anthony of Padua has Mass at 8:30 a.m. on January 1, 2018.

ALTAR & ROSARY SOCIETY NEWS

Our next Altar & Rosary Society Mass will be Sunday, January 14, 2018 at 8:30 a.m. The Rosary will be said at 8:00 a.m. prior to Mass.



READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Vigil: Is 62:1-5; Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27-29; Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Mt 1:1-25 [18-25]
During the Night: Is 9:1-6; Ps 96:1-3, 11-13; Ti 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14; Dawn: Is 62:11-12; Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12; Ti 3:4-7; Lk 2:15-20; Day: Is 52:7-10; Ps 98:1-6; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18

Tuesday: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Ps 31:3cd-4, 6, 8ab, 16bc, 17; Mt 10:17-22

Wednesday: 1 Jn 1:1-4; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12; Jn 20:1a, 2-8

Thursday: 1 Jn 1:5 -- 2:2; Ps 124:2-5, 7cd-8; Mt 2:13-18

Friday: 1 Jn 2:3-11; Ps 96:1-3, 5b-6; Lk 2:22-35

Saturday: 1 Jn 2:12-17; Ps 96:7-10; Lk 2:36-40

Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or Gn 15:1-6; 21:1-3; Ps 128:1-5 or Ps 105:1-6, 8-9; Col 3:12-21 [12-17] or Hb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19; Lk 2:22-40 [22, 39-40]

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR

Father Georges was an oblate missionary priest assigned to the missions of the Canadian Northwest. Perhaps the fact that early winters near the Arctic guarantee a "White Christmas", his native congregation thoroughly enjoyed celebrating the rites of that great festival. One Advent, the pastor and his flock had made the usual preparations for the nativity. The little church was decorated with evergreens, the crib was set up, and all was ready for the Midnight Mass.

Unfortunately, on December 24th, the weather turned bad. A blinding blizzard whipped down from the Arctic Ocean and the drifts were soon so deep that the whole mission parish was snowbound. Obviously, the Christmas liturgies could not take place. In fact, the missionary himself could not even get out and reach the church next door to celebrate Mass privately.

Cabined, cribbed and confined, Fr. Georges was disconsolate. What a way to pass Christmas! He loved the Mass, and had always made a practice of offering it daily except when seriously impeded. He had never before been prevented from saying Mass on Christmas. Alone in the gloom, he had only the gloomiest of thoughts. But as he ruminated in self-pity, he suddenly recalled what a retreat master had once told him: "Remember, the chief lesson of Christmas: do the will of God!"

Yes, thought Georges, reflecting on the words of the psalmist: "To do your will, O my God, is my delight, and your law is within my heart" (Ps. 40:9). That thought put a new complexion on his situation. "God wants it this way," he concluded. And strange as it seems, he later looked back upon this snowbound Christmas as one of the sweetest and best in his life.

Not all of us will have a "Merry Christmas" this year in the usual sense. Sickness, disability, unemployment, family troubles, loneliness – these may dull the edge of our own holiday joy. Christmas trials can actually be beneficial in bringing us closer still to the chill poverty of the stable where Christ was born. Then we can pray with deep personal feeling the prayer of Midnight Mass: "May we share His life completely by living as He has taught!"

The Reverend Edward J. Smith



RESPECT LIFE

"Behold, you shall conceive in your womb, and you shall bear a son, and you shall call His name: JESUS." Luke 1:31 **Rejoice at Christmas, rejoice at life!**

Visit www.clevelandrighttolife.org

WATCH SPECIAL EWTN ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS PROGRAMMING

EWTN is proud to bring you LIVE Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Masses from Rome and the Basilica of the National Shrine in Washington, D.C. as well as inspiring musical performances, specials for children and teens, and new holiday presentations the whole family will enjoy. For more information, go to ewtn.com.

CORNERSTONE PREGNANCY SERVICES IS IN GREAT NEED!

We are in great need of diapers (size newborn, 4 & 5) and wipes for our Baby Bucks Boutique. Our **Holiday Diaper and Wipes Donation Drive** is from **December 11 - January 4, 2018**. Our prayer is that we stock our shelves full for the New Year - we do not have the supply for the demand. Gift Cards to purchase the items are needed *If you are able....Please bring donations to The Center located at 364 Griswold Rd. in Elyria, Monday-Thursday between 9-5. Our Thanks and Merry Christmas to all you Warriors for Life!*



UPCOMING EVENTS

No PSR	Tues, Dec 26		
Eucharistic Adoration	Wed, Dec 27	9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.	Church
No PSR	Tues, Jan 2		
Eucharistic Adoration	Wed, Jan 3	9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.	Church

LET US GIVE THANKS TO THE LORD OUR GOD FOR THOSE AMONG US:

Thank You to Bill Brock for updating the outdoor sign by our driveway.

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS SERVING OUR COUNTRY

Charles Godles, Christopher Barnhart, Jason Bender, Thomas Daley, Capt. Richard Robinson, Tom Fisher, Anthony Burns, Michael Naughton, Allen Fish, 2nd Lt. Louis Rios, Justin Callison, Quinn Rambo, Capt. Shelby Stratton, Grant Bartlett, Sgt. Tyler Corwin, John McGlynn, Cpl. Andrew Edwards, 1st Sgt. Derek Lisowski
To add names call 934-4227.

PARISH CLUSTER CORNER

St. Thomas the Apostle

www.saintthomaschurch.net

St. Anthony

www.stanthonylorain.org/our-parish/

HOSPITAL CALLS

Every hospital has an appointed Catholic Chaplain. Please request his services for a patient. Notify the parish office so that the sick will be remembered in our prayers and Masses.



TELEVISED SUNDAY MASS

Sunday Mass is aired on Channel 8 on Sundays at 6:00 a.m.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

St. Teresa's: Wednesday from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

St. Anthony's perpetual Adoration Chapel is behind the church.

HOPE AND HEALING BEYOND HEROIN

Catholic Charities and the Diocesan Social Action Office (DSA)) are partnering with *Greater Than Heroin*, to launch a 3-month campaign to elevate awareness and offer resources in response to the opioid crisis.

Around the Town

SOLACE OF LORAIN COUNTY - ADVOCACY FOR FAMILIES COPING WITH SUBSTANCE ABUSE

The next meeting will be **December 27, 2017 from 6 - 8 p.m.** at Amherst Beaver Creek: Visitor Center, 913 N. Lake St., Amherst. For information call Kathy at 440-823-6177.

HELP US PROTECT LIFE BY VOLUNTEERING

Cleveland Right to Life needs volunteers. Our volunteers will tell you that their gift of time and talents are repaid ten-fold in the joy they get from assisting the families and clients who visit us. Call 216-661-3000.

CHAPLAIN SERVICES TO PRISONS AND JAILS

If you have a loved one incarcerated in one of the eight counties of the Diocese and would like to have a priest, deacon or one of our lay volunteer ministers visit with them, call 800-869-6525 or 216-696-6525, x3500. The Diocesan Ministry to the Incarcerated has a presence in the three state prisons, the county jails and the juvenile facilities located within our diocese.

ANNUAL PARISH CHRISTMAS CONCERT - ST. MARY OF THE FALLS

(Located at 25615 Bagley Road in Olmsted Falls) Join us **7PM on Thursday, December 28**; concert will feature all music ministry groups including adult choir, youth choir and life teen band with special guests: award-winning pianist, Rixiang Huang and world-renowned guitarist, Neil Zaza. The concert is free; a goodwill offering will be taken. All are welcome! For questions, please contact Music Director, Christina Dupré at 440.465.1195 or christina.dupre37@gmail.com.

EXALT!! - ST. VINCENT DE PAUL CHURCH

Join us on **Friday, December 29 from 7 - 8:30 p.m.** in the church for a night of Eucharistic Adoration, praise & worship music, a teaching and silent meditation. Light refreshments to follow.

"THANK GOD IT'S FIRST FRIDAY" - ST. CLARENCE CHURCH

An inter-parish men's group will meet at St. Clarence Church, 30106 Lorain Road, N. Olmsted, on **January 5, 2018**, for a First Friday luncheon, at 11:30 a.m. followed with a talk by Rev. Fr. Sean Ralph and concluding with Mass. Cost is \$10. Call George at 440-937-6606 by Tuesday, January 2.

WESTSHORE SEPARATED, DIVORCED & WIDOWED GROUP

You are welcome on **January 7, 2018 at 7 p.m.** at St. Brendan's Kenny Center, 4242 Brendan Ln., N. Olmsted. For information call Jane at 216-509-4570.

GENTLE WOMAN FELLOWSHIP

Join us **Friday, January 5, 2018 at 9:30 a.m.** for Rosary, Mass, potluck luncheon and talk with Fr. Robert Cole at St. Clarence Parish, 30106 Lorain Road, N. Olmsted. For information call Mary at 330-636-1698.

POLKA MASS AT ST. FRANCES CABRINI CHURCH, LORAIN

The Altar & Rosary Society invites you to a Polka Mass on **Sunday, January 14, 2018 at 11 a.m.** Following Mass will be a stuffed pork chop dinner with a polka party. Tickets are \$15 each; children under 3 eat free. Purchase tickets by calling 440-277-7266.

ADULT BIBLE STUDY: EXODUS AT ST. VINCENT DE PAUL CHURCH

Join us beginning **Wednesday, January 17, 2018 from 7 - 8:30 p.m.** Cost is \$25. Register by January 12 by calling Deacon Edgar at 440-213-5956.

PRO-LIFE DOCTORS LIST

A list of local Pro-life doctors, who do not practice abortion nor support its use, is available. Call 440-322-0076 or visit www.loraincountyrighttolife.org under Resources and Issues tab.

Pregnant and in need? Help is available at OptionLine.org or call 1-800-712-HELP.

Homeless and pregnant? Call Good Counsel Homes, 1-800-723-8331 or visit www.goodcounselhomes.org.

Hurting from an abortion? Visit www.AbortionForgiveness.com.

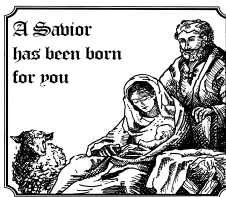
Liturgical Ministers Schedule

Eucharistic Ministers

<p>Sat, December 23 4:30 p.m. Debbie Korce Mike Palmer Frances Geiger John Katricak</p>	<p>Sun, December 24 8:30 a.m. Rick Basista Barb Eifel ** Kathy Cunningham Christi Smail</p>	<p>Sun, December 24 11:00 a.m. Trish MacDonald Norman Novak Susan Novak Carol Kirchner</p>
<p>Christmas Eve Sun, December 24 4:30 p.m. Christi Smail Bill Bistak ** John Katricak Greg Smail</p>	<p>Christmas Eve Sun, December 24 10:00 p.m. Tom Pienoski ** Joan Gigliotti Marty Yonkof Carol Yonkof</p>	<p>Christmas Day Mon, December 25 8:30 a.m. Ann Glime Sue DiVaccaro ** Rick Basista EM Needed</p>
<p>Sat, December 30 4:30 p.m. Tom Pienoski ** John Katricak Ann Glime EM Needed</p>	<p>Sun, December 31 8:30 a.m. Marty Yonkof Carol Yonkof Greg Smail Sue DiVaccaro **</p>	<p>Sun, December 31 11:00 a.m. Marci Matsamas Elmer Klingshirn Theresa Gillotti Dan Gillotti</p>

Lectors

<p>Sat, December 23 4:30 p.m. Larry Durica</p>	<p>Sun, December 24 8:30 a.m. Greg Petro</p>	<p>Sun, December 24 11:00 a.m. Tom Parkey</p>
<p>Christmas Eve Sun, December 24 4:30 p.m. Student Lector</p>	<p>Christmas Eve Sun, December 24 10:00 p.m. Phil Gigliotti</p>	<p>Christmas Day Mon, December 25 8:30 a.m. Jean Ackerman</p>
<p>Sat, December 30 4:30 p.m. Andrew Augustine</p>	<p>Sun, December 31 8:30 a.m. Bruce DiVaccaro</p>	<p>Sun, December 31 11:00 a.m. Tom Parkey</p>



Altar Servers

<p>Sat, December 23 4:30 p.m. Tom Pienoski **</p>	<p>Sun, December 24 8:30 a.m. Server Needed</p>	<p>Sun, December 24 11:00 a.m. Beth Parkey</p>
<p>Christmas Eve Sun, December 24 4:30 p.m. Cara Smail</p>	<p>Christmas Eve Sun, December 24 10:00 p.m. Victoria Korce</p>	<p>Christmas Day Mon, December 25 8:30 a.m. Bill Brock</p>
<p>Sat, December 30 4:30 p.m. Ray Fitzwater</p>	<p>Sun, December 31 8:30 a.m. Adam Smail</p>	<p>Sun, December 31 11:00 a.m. Beth Parkey</p>