

St. Teresa of Avila Parish

1878 Abbe Road Sheffield Village, Ohio 44054

YOU MUST BE PREPARED,
FOR AT AN HOUR YOU DO NOT EXPECT,
THE SON OF MAN WILL COME.

MATTHEW 24:44



FIRST SUNDAY OF
ADVENT
DECEMBER 1, 2019

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Established 1845

ST. TERESA OF AVILA CHURCH is handicap accessible.

STAFF

Reverend Edward J. Smith, Pastor
Office Hours: Wed & Fri 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Fr. Thomas Sanders, OSB, Weekend Associate
Debbie Wehler, Sue DiVaccaro, Secretaries
Lou Varos, Finance Council Chairperson

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

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

PARISH INFORMATION

BAPTISMS: Baptisms are celebrated after the 11:00 a.m. Mass on Sundays. Arrangements should be made shortly before or after the birth of the child.

COMMUNION CALLS: Please call the Rectory to schedule.

MATRIMONY: At least one member must be a parishioner and be active for at least six months prior to calling. Couples need to make arrangements at least six months prior to the wedding date. No date may be reserved until discussed with the 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.

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

“You . . . must be prepared, for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come.”— Matthew 24:44

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

- Saturday, November 30 St. Andrew
4:30 p.m. deceased of the DeChant family by Bill DeChant, Gerry & family
Sunday, December 1 First Sunday of Advent
8:30 a.m. deceased of the Pliszka family by Andrea McKay
11:00 a.m. +Mark Walsh by Marci Matsamas
Monday, December 2 NO MASS
Tuesday, December 3 St. Francis Xavier, Priest NO MASS
Wednesday, December 4 St. John Damascene
8:30 a.m. +Gus Wehler by Bill, Paula & Brad Stavesky
Thursday, December 5 NO MASS
Friday, December 6 St. Nicholas, Bishop
8:30 a.m. Kay Erlenbach (peace/healing) by Don & Carol Kirchner
Saturday, December 7 St. Ambrose, Bishop
4:30 p.m. +Jean Ackerman by Mike & Barb Griffith & family
Sunday, December 8 Second Sunday of Advent
8:30 a.m. living/deceased of the Altar & Rosary Society
11:00 a.m. +Martha Niemiec by Ed & Jo Niemiec



Weekly Goal In next week's Bulletin. \$4,000.00

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

RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS

Give in Thanksgiving! "The nuns left lasting impressions on me," writes a donor. Please join in thanking the thousands of senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests who worked tirelessly to educate the young and serve those in need. Next week's collection is for the Retirement Fund for Religious, which helps hundreds of religious communities care for aging members. Please give generously.

MASSES

Sunday Vigil - Saturday 4:30 PM Sunday - 8:30 AM and 11:00 AM
Wed & Fri - 8:30 AM; Holy Day Vigil, Holy Day and Civic Holidays - Watch Bulletin

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

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR

Today's gospel is scary (Matthew 24:37-44). Is it hopeless and useless to be concerned about the "end," which absolutely no one can foresee or predict?

On the contrary, we must be very hopeful — Christ has given us a very clear, daily objective to work towards. The objective is to "be prepared" at all times — not in fear, but in the hope of being ready to receive our Savior, Jesus. We must also be very concerned that we are doing all we can to welcome Jesus now, so that he will welcome us later.

Keep in mind the context of these so-called "end time" passages in scripture. Just before our gospel today, Christ is weeping over Jerusalem for not recognizing him and accepting him. Then comes the warning to "be prepared," followed by two parables on preparedness. Finally comes the last judgment scene, when all people are judged by how they recognized and responded to Jesus in the needy they encountered daily.

This is one of those "Just as...So..." episodes. Just as the people in Noah's time had ample warning, still they did not heed the call to prepare their hearts; so they experienced the devastation of "the flood." Just as the people and leaders in Jerusalem ignored Jesus' appeal for covenant love and the removal of barriers between God and Others, so they experienced the devastation of the loss of "the temple" and "the land." In this First Sunday of Advent, we hear Jesus repeat his loving concern, his warning: "just as... so you had better prepare your heart, repent, and serve my needy people." This is a message of hope, not of despair.

The Reverend Edward J. Smith, Pastor

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

- Monday: Is 4:2-6; Ps 122:1-9; Mt 8:5-11
- Tuesday: Is 11:1-10; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17; Lk 10:21-24
- Wednesday: Is 25:6-10a; Ps 23:1-6; Mt 15:29-37
- Thursday: Is 26:1-6; Ps 118:1, 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a; Mt 7:21, 24-27
- Friday: Is 29:17-24; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; Mt 9:27-31
- Saturday: Is 30:19-21, 23-26; Ps 147:1-6; Mt 9:35 — 10:1
- Sunday: Is 11:1-10; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17; Rom 15:4-9; Mt 3:1-12



ADVENT COMMUNAL PENANCE SERVICE

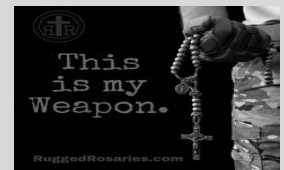
The Parishes of St. Anthony, St. Teresa and St. Thomas will have a Communal Penance service on **Sunday, December 8 at 2 p.m. at St. Thomas Church**. Several priests will be available to hear confessions. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to prepare for the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ, through this Sacrament of grace and reconciliation.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Confirmation Parent Mtg	Sun, Dec 1	11:00 a.m.	St. Anthony's
PSR	Tues, Dec 3	6 – 7:15 p.m.	PLC Classrooms
Eucharistic Adoration	Wed, Dec 4	9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Church
Bible Study	Thurs, Dec 5	7:00 p.m.	St. John Room

TOGETHER -  LET US PRAY ... PARISHIONERS:

- Luz Villanueva, Eleanor Rieth
- Loretta Forthofer, Dorothy Tomshe
- Gladys Mackert, Eva-Maria Peters
- Charlotte Joherle, Amy White
- Kathleen Brezinski, Anna Joseph
- Patricia Welsh, Maebelle Fill
- Marty Lima, Marianne Rieth
- Ruth Bistak, Arlene Flynn
- Neva Young, Bernadette Mack
- Mike Gall



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, Justin Brown, Michael Garba
 - SSgt. Leo Ostrolencki, 1st Sgt. Derek Lisowski, Dustin Moorman
 - Capt. Matt Terrigno
- To add names call 934-4227.

HOSPITAL CALLS

Please request the services of the Catholic Chaplain at the hospital for a patient. Notify the parish office so that the sick will be remembered in our prayers and Masses.



ST. TERESA OF AVILA PRAY FOR US!

"There is every reason to be conformed to the will of God."
St. Teresa of Avila



CATHOLIC PROGRAMMING



Chaplet of Divine Mercy on ETWN Everyday at 3:00 p.m. – the hour of Divine Mercy!

ANNOINTING OF THE SICK

Fr. Smith will have Anointing of the sick at 4:30 p.m. Mass on **Saturday, November 30, 2019.**

In the Anointing of the Sick, the focus is on the possibility of a spiritual and/or a physical healing. The prayers address the sick person as a whole, which includes all aspects of our human life. So while a physical or psychological ailment may be the most obvious cause of the person's suffering, other aspects of the person's health are also taken into consideration. Many times, the spiritual healing is far more dramatic than the physical and may take the form of an increased ability to accept the physical illness and its suffering.

St. Andrew Christmas Novena

Hail and blessed be the hour and moment in which the Son of God was born Of the most pure Virgin Mary, at midnight, in Bethlehem, in the piercing cold. In that hour vouchsafe, I beseech Thee, O my God, to hear my prayer and grant my desires through the merits of Our Savior Jesus Christ, and of His blessed Mother. Amen.

Pray this Novena from **November 30 through Christmas Eve.**
 Tradition says to say this prayer **15 times per day.**
May your Advent be a true preparation for the coming of Christ in your heart!

Advent begins on November 30. Please take a "Word Among Us" meditation and scripture book from the rear of the church.

Congratulations

HONOR ROLL AT ST. EDWARD HIGH SCHOOL

Ryan F. Dunn
We are proud of you!

Bulletin

Any items to be included in the bulletins for December 22 & 29, and January 5, must be to the office by Monday, December 16, 2019.

POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER INTENTION - DECEMBER

"That every country take the measures necessary to prioritize the future of the very young, especially those who are suffering."

Jesus I Trust In You!
 Seek Jesus by spending time with Him in the Eucharist.
Every Wednesday at St. Teresa Church 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE!

Keep up to date with current happenings in your parish!
 Visit www.stteresaparish.com.
 Scroll to the bottom of the homepage for current events and other information.



THANK YOU TO...

...Social Concern's Barb Eifel for delivering turkeys to Mother Cabrini Food Pantry for Thanksgiving. The turkeys were donated by an outside source.

CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE IF YOUR LOVED ONE IS SICK

If a family member is sick or hospitalized we welcome a phone call at the parish office so their name can be put in the bulletin for prayers. Not all hospitals in the area notify churches that a parishioner has been admitted.

PARISH CLUSTER CORNER

St. Thomas the Apostle
www.saintthomaschurch.net
 St. Anthony
www.stanthonylorain.org/our-parish/

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



Time, Talent & Treasure

HOW TO HELP OUR PARISH FAMILY



SOCIAL CONCERNS COMMITTEE NEWS

“Gifts for Baby Jesus” to benefit Birthright of Lorain County

The Social Concerns Committee will be collecting Gifts for Baby Jesus during Advent from **November 30 – December 22, 2019.**

This year Birthright’s greatest need is diapers (newborn – size 6), formula (Gerber or similar), and cotton & fleece sleepers (up to size 5). Gifts can be wrapped or unwrapped and placed near the tree at the front of the church.

Please help the children who are less fortunate in Lorain County to have a blessed & Merry Christmas!

ITEMS NEEDED: Geber formulas (or similar), Bath items, Blankets/afghans, Gently used clothes (newborn – size 12), Gently used or new coats, boots, & gloves, Gently used maternity clothing, and money to replenish needed items.

Donate a gift for the unborn Baby you have Spiritually Adopted!

What better way to welcome “our” babies this Christmas! Let’s make sure all those babies that are born this Christmas and their mothers have what they need! Thank you all for your generous prayers and contributions!



THE ALTAR & ROSARY SOCIETY NEWS

Our next Altar & Rosary Society Mass will be **Sunday, December 8, 2019 at 8:30 a.m.**

The Rosary will be said at 8:00 a.m. prior to Mass.

All Ladies are welcome to all events & meetings! You do not have to be a member.

St. Teresa's Annual Christmas Dinner

Hosted by the Altar and Rosary Society



Saturday, December 14, 2019

Social Hour at 5:30 p.m. with appetizers, beer & wine

Buffet Dinner at 6:30 p.m.

Catered by Tom’s County Place

Menu includes

Breaded Pork Chops, Oven Roasted Eye of Round, Mashed Potatoes & Gravy,
Glazed Baby Carrots, Green Beans, Salad with Roll, Dessert & Beverages

Cost remains at \$20 per person!

Pre-Sale tickets only! Purchase your tickets in the church office and after Mass the weekends of November 30/December 1 and December 7 & 8.

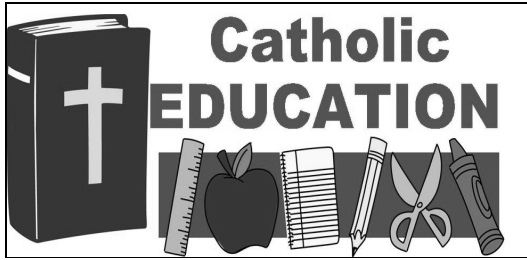
GIFT BASKETS ARE NEEDED FOR THE CHRISTMAS DINNER

If you are able to put together a Raffle Gift Basket for the Christmas Dinner please call Barb Eifel at 440-934-1855. If you need a suggestion for a “theme” for your basket please contact Barb Eifel also - she has many ideas for baskets!

Please leave completed baskets in the breezeway of the Rectory office. *Many Thanks!!*

ST. TERESA’S HOMEBOUND MINISTRY

We visit Parishioners who are in nursing homes or who are homebound because of age, illness or recovering from surgery. If you know a Parishioner who would like a visit please call the church office at 440-934-4227.



Classes are on Tuesdays from 6 – 7:15 p.m.
 For students in grades 1st – 8th.
 Call with questions to the Parish Office
 at 440-934-4227

ST. TERESA'S BIBLE STUDY

Our meetings for December will be
 Thursdays, the 5th & 19th at 7 p.m.

CONFIRMATION CLASSES

Classes will be held on Sundays at St. Teresa of Avila Church/Parish Life Center from 8:30 a.m. (with Mass) to 11:45 a.m. The first class is December 8th. **PARENTS:** there is a mandatory Parent/Guardian meeting at St. Anthony's after the 10 a.m. Mass on Sunday, December 1, 2019.



CHRISTMAS MEALS FOR FAMILIES IN NEED

**Donate between now
 and
 December 13, 2019.**

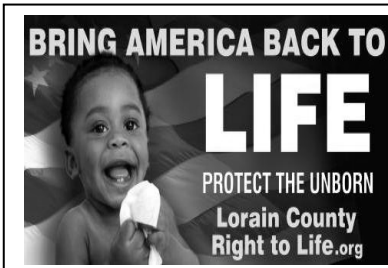
Fr. Smith and St. Teresa Parish are working with the other churches of Sheffield Village to provide a family-centered Christmas meal for families of Sheffield Village and Sheffield Lake. See Father's complete letter in the bulletin insert.
 Parishioners of St. Teresa Parish who wish to donate money or food can drop it in front of the **St. Mary's altar** in church or to the church office. **\$30 provides a meal for a family.**
Food items to donate are: boxed mashed potatoes and scallop potatoes, canned sweet potatoes, green beans, corn, and brown gravy, boxed cake mix, and canned frosting.

Our hope is that as we honor the coming of our Savior, and his place within the Holy Family of Nazareth, we can share Christ's love with all the families of our community who may need help during this Holy Season.

HELP CELEBRATE WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR CONSECRATED LIFE

We celebrate those consecrated to religious life on **February 1-2, 2020**. In preparation for these days, we ask for pictures for the "Formation Poster" that gets distributed throughout the Diocese. If you know anyone from our Diocese who is in a religious formation program, or who is discerning within a religious community and they want their photo to appear on this poster please send the picture to the office. Deadline is November 29. Photos must be digital, the file (300 dpi, jpeg, or tiff) and emailed to st.teresa.office@neohio.twcbc.com. Background should be neutral, pose from the chest up, well lit and a pleasant facial expression.
Call the church office with questions: 440-934-4227.

LORAIN COUNTY RIGHT TO LIFE SIGNATURE AD



Bring America back to life – protect the unborn!
The weekend of December 7 & 8, 2019
 we will be collecting signatures after Mass in the rear of the church.
 A donation of \$5 per name is requested to help cover the cost of the Ad.
Add your name to those in our County who support life!!

Sponsored by the Social Concerns Committee

TELEVISED SUNDAY MASS

ch8 at 6:00 a.m. WUAB ch43 at 8 a.m. WMFD ch68 at 9:30 a.m.
 Online video Mass from *Heart of the Nation, Catholic Mass*, with Fr. Mark Payne at www.HeartoftheNation.org

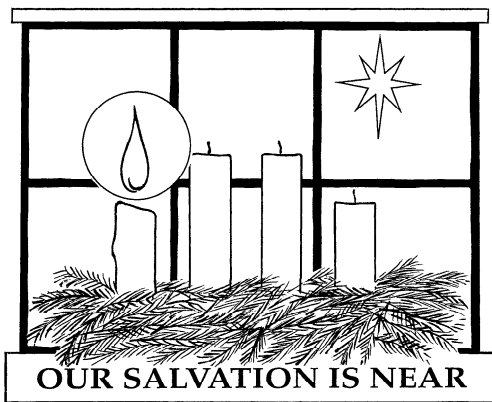
Liturgical Ministers Schedule

Eucharistic Ministers

<p>Sat, Nov 30 4:30 p.m. John Katricak ** Daniel Bryda Frances Geiger EM Needed</p>	<p>Sun, Dec 1 8:30 a.m. Sue DiVaccaro ** Kathy Cunningham Aaron Davis Greg Smail</p>	<p>Sun, Dec 1 11:00 a.m. Marci Matsamas Theresa Gillotti Debbie Brady EM Needed</p>
<p>Sat, Dec 7 4:30 p.m. Tom Pienoski ** Ann Glime Daniel Bryda EM Needed</p>	<p>Sun, Dec 8 8:30 a.m. Marty Yonkof Carol Yonkof Barb Eifel ** Christi Smail</p>	<p>Sun, Dec 8 11:00 a.m. Susan Novak Norman Novak Don Kirchner Carol Kirchner</p>

Lectors

<p>Sat, Nov 30 4:30 p.m. Andrew Augustine</p>	<p>Sun, Dec 1 8:30 a.m. Greg Petro</p>	<p>Sun, Dec 1 11:00 a.m. Lou Varos</p>
<p>Sat, Dec 7 4:30 p.m. Andrew Augustine</p>	<p>Sun, Dec 8 8:30 a.m. Larry Durica</p>	<p>Sun, Dec 8 11:00 a.m. Fred Courtright</p>



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Altar Servers

<p>Sat, Nov 30 4:30 p.m. Ray Fitzwater</p>	<p>Sun, Dec 1 8:30 a.m. Cara Smail</p>	<p>Sun, Dec 1 11:00 a.m. Dave Griffith</p>
<p>Sat, Dec 7 4:30 p.m. Dan Huczko</p>	<p>Sun, Dec 8 8:30 a.m. Frank Lanza</p>	<p>Sun, Dec 8 11:00 a.m. Mikey Griffith Dave Griffith</p>

Around the Town

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

The next meeting will be **December 13, 2019 from 6 - 8 p.m.**
LCCC – CARE Center (BU 113D), 1005 N. Abbe Rd., Elyria. For information call Kathy at 440-823-6177. Visit: www.lorainadas.org.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT & DINNER AT ST. THOMAS CHURCH

St. Thomas the Apostle Parish presents the 3rd Annual Acoustic Country Christmas Concert & Dinner featuring Kim Robins & 40 Years Late with Acoustic Age, **Saturday, December 7th, 2019 in the St. Thomas the Apostle Parish Social Hall**, 719 Harris Rd, Sheffield Lake, Ohio. Tickets are ONLY being sold in advanced for \$25.00 and until December 1st, 2019. YES the price includes dinner. You can purchase your tickets at WOBL WDLW Radio Stations 45264 US HWY 20 Oberlin OH (Monday-Friday 9am-4pm). St. Thomas Rectory 521 Harris Rd Sheffield Lake, OH (Tuesday-Friday 10am-2pm) or charge by phone (440) 670-1931. Dinner includes Turkey, Dressing w/ Gravy, Pasta w/ Meatballs, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, Cornbread Casserole, Salad, Roll & Butter, Dessert, Coffee, Water, and Pop.

CHEFS IN TRAINING - CHRISTMAS COOKIE MAKING

December 7 | 9 am - 12 pm. Students in grades 6-9 are invited to join us for a morning of making a variety of Christmas cookies. Register at elyriacatholic.com. Cost is \$25.

INTER-PARISH MEN'S GROUP – FIRST FRIDAY

Join us on Friday, December 6 for a First Friday Luncheon at St. Clarence Church, 30106 Lorain Road, N. Olmsted. Registration begins at 11:15 a.m., followed by the luncheon, then an inspirational talk, and concludes with Mass. Cost is \$10. Call George at 440-937-6606 by December 3.

“UNBOUND: FREEDOM IN CHRIST” CONFERENCE

Takes place **Friday, March 6, 2020 from 7 – 9 p.m. and Saturday, March 7, 2020 from 9 a.m. – 8 p.m.** Takes place in Founders Hall at the Center for Pastoral Leadership, 28700 Euclid Ave., Wickliffe, OH 44092. Everyone is fighting an invisible battle: negative thoughts, secret sins, destructive habits, resentments and bitter wounds. What if you could reach out and touch God's love, and never be the same? Unbound Ministry releases the power of Jesus into wounded hearts. Neal and Janet Lozano will be here in Cleveland to present the conference sessions. Registration for 2 days is \$75 per person if postmarked by February 10. Late registration is \$90. No registration at the door. Go to CRMUnboundConference@gmail.com.

GENTLE WOMAN FELLOWSHIP

Meets on First Fridays at Saint Clarence Parish Center, 30106 Lorain Road, North Olmsted, Ohio, 44070. **First Friday, December 6, 2019.** Schedule of Activities: 9:30 - Pray the Holy Rosary in the Chapel; 10:00 - Attend Holy Mass followed by a snack and coffee or tea; About 10:45 - Enjoy a Talk. All women welcome! Questions? Contact Mary Hoover at 330.636.1698. No reservations needed. All activities are cancelled if North Olmsted city schools are closed. Father Damian Ezeani will celebrate Mass with us. He is from the Diocese of Orlu in Nigeria.