

Saint Therese Parish

9525 W Bluemound Rd, Milwaukee, WI 53226

sttheresemke.org • info@sttheresemke.org

Phone (414) 771-2500 • Facebook: @sttheresemke

We are St. Therese Catholic Church, a community of believers, who walk together by faith in Christ Jesus, and minister in the Little Way of St. Therese, as we strive hand-in-hand to live as God's people.

December 26th, 2021



Parish Staff

Parish Administrator

Fr. Joe Koyickal, SAC
frjoe@sttheresemke.org

ext. 1

Assisting Priest

Rev. Hugh Birdsall, SDS

Help-out Priest

Rev. Norm Oswald

Office and Facilities Administrator

Heather Goeden
heather@sttheresemke.org

ext. 2

Interim Bookkeeper

Christine Jensen
christine@sttheresemke.org

ext. 4

Catechesis Ministry

Dr. Jean Marie Weber – Coordinator of
Preschool through Grade 8
jmweber@sttheresemke.org

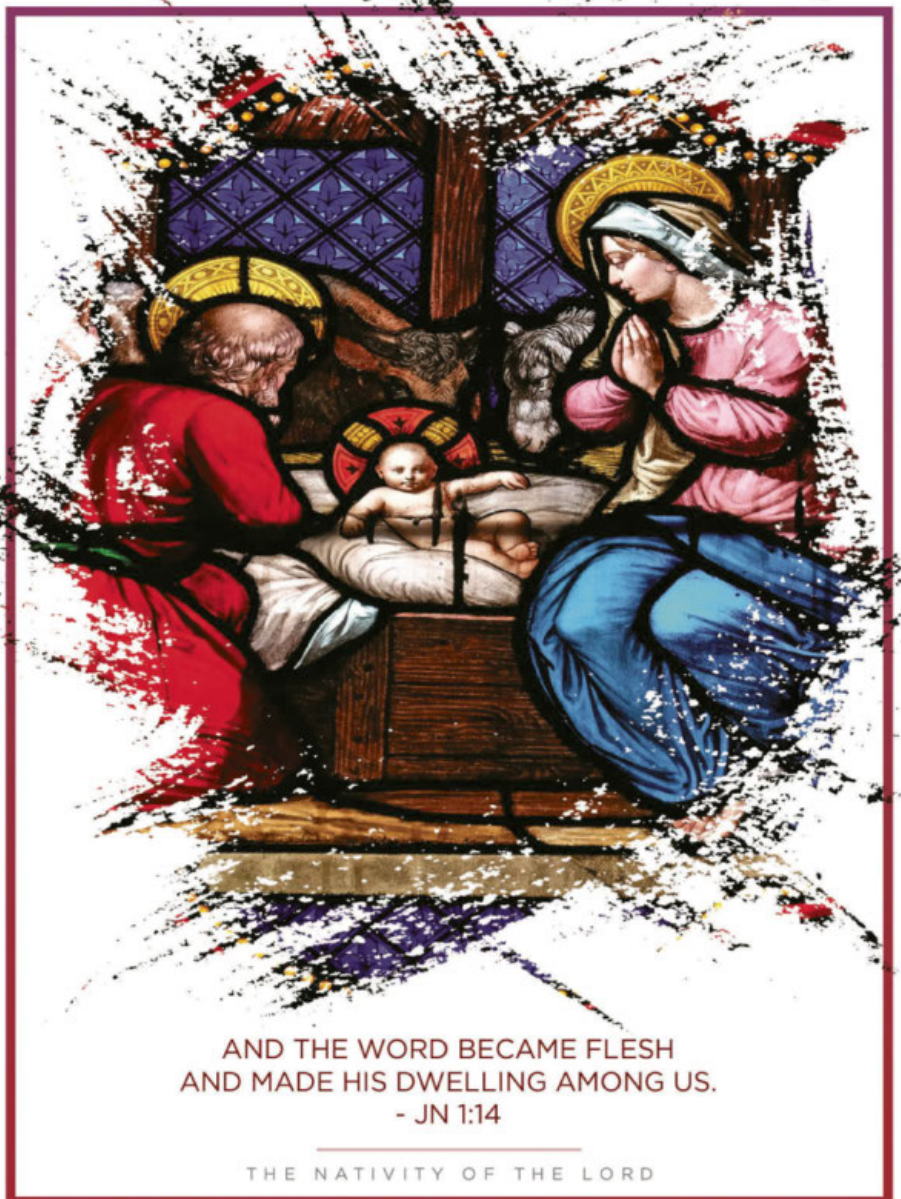
Rick Reinders – Coordinator of High School
& Youth Confirmation
rreinders@sttheresemke.org

Christine Reinders – Coordinator of 1st
Reconciliation/1st Communion & Children's
Liturgy of the Word
creinders@sttheresemke.org

Ministers – All the Members of the Parish

Parish Emergencies

(414) 771-2500 – Push 0



AND THE WORD BECAME FLESH
AND MADE HIS DWELLING AMONG US.
- JN 1:14

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

EXCERPTS FROM THE LECTIONARY FOR MASS ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. ©LFI

Mass Schedule

Saturday: 4:00PM

Sunday: 9:00AM

Holiday & Holyday Masses Listed Inside

Tuesday: 8:30AM in the Chapel
Limit of 12 People

Per CDC guidance, we encourage everyone to wear masks in the building, regardless of vaccination status.

9:00AM Sunday Morning Mass is streamed via Facebook Live.

Reconciliation:

3:15PM – First Saturday of the Month

Anointing of the Sick:

After Both Masses on the First Full Weekend of the Month

All Other Sacraments:

Please call the Parish Office
Preparation can take six months or more

Office Hours

Mon, Tues, Wed, & Thurs:

8:00AM–12:00PM Onsite

12:00PM–4:00PM Remote

Friday & Saturday: Closed

Sunday: 10:00AM–11:30AM Onsite
Any changes to the hours are listed inside.



“He so loved us that for our sake He was made man in time, through Whom all times were made; was in the world less in years than His servants, though older than the world itself in His eternity; was made man, Who made man; was created of a mother, whom He created; was carried by hands which He formed; nursed at the breasts which He had filled; cried in the manger in wordless infancy, He the Word without Whom all human eloquence is mute (St. Augustine, Sermon 188).” The miracle of what happens at Christmas is truly an awesome mystery. Revealed in the silent ordinariness of life is God’s intimate love for humanity and all that he made. The Word, existing for all time, comes and dwells among us. God kisses us. We can seek and soar with playful delight as a joy never known before fills our heart.

Joy is best expressed through dance. There is just something truly wonderful about the self-abandon a beautiful melodic dance reveals. If we are able to let go and really be free, it celebrates life in a way few other experiences really can. With the birth of Jesus Christ, God takes the Divine Dance to a deeper and more tangible level. We can now not only see what we believe but believe what we see! This most perfect dance is a call to beauty, innocence, truth, purpose, hope, faith, and love. Today we know, beyond doubt, that we are a necessary part of God’s beautifully choreographed masterpiece of life and not just a random happening without real intent or purpose. We are loved, treasured, and blessed.

Accepting the truth of God’s birth in time we also accept an invitation to dance with God. We can let go of what tethers us to anxious concerns and superficial securities. Throw caution to the wind and go with God. We have been blessed with talents, gifts, and life eternal. Follow the rhythm of the dance with joy and listen to what the Word who became flesh tells us about what the next steps can be. Today, heaven remains the same, but earth has been profoundly changed. ©LPi

Altered Bulletin Deadline

The deadline for the January 9th Bulletin is Monday, January 3rd at 8:30AM.



Time to Update Our Prayer List

It’s time to update our prayer list. It is our privilege to pray for others, especially those who are going through a difficult time, are sick and suffering, or who have a special need. If you have submitted a name and would like it to remain on the prayer list, please contact Heather Goeden in the Parish Office by January 3rd by phone, email, or US mail. Thank you!

Altered Office Hours

- Sunday, December 26th: Office Closed
- Wednesday, December 29th: 8:00AM to Noon; Closed PM
- Thursday, December 30th: 8:00AM to Noon; Closed PM
- Sunday, January 2nd: Office Closed

Donate a Sanctuary Candle or Schedule a Mass Intention in Memory of a Loved One

Please consider donating the sanctuary candle (that burns in front of the tabernacle) in memory or honor of a loved one or for a special intention. The cost is \$10 per month. The following months in 2022 are currently open: May, June, and September. Months will be assigned on a first come, first served basis. Or consider donating a mass intention. To donate, please contact Heather Goeden in the Parish Office.



CHURCH SUPPORT

Envelopes & Offertory	\$ 1,425.00
Sharing Weekend	\$ 50.00
Maintenance Donations	\$ 40.00

Please remember St. Therese in your will!

Congratulations to the Winners!

The winner of the raffle basket at the Library Christmas/Advent display is Bill Webb. Jacob Eisenberger is the winner of the guessing game and he won a \$10 gift card to Target and all the Hershey kisses. Congratulations to Bill and Jacob! There is a special display of DVD movies the whole family will enjoy on the counter in the parish library. Visit the library, located in the main lobby, before or after mass and choose from a wide selection of DVDs or books for this holiday season. DVDs may be checked out for 2 weeks and books for 3 weeks. Enjoy this free resource for all parishioners!

Solemnity of Mary/World Day of Prayer for Peace

Holyday of Obligation

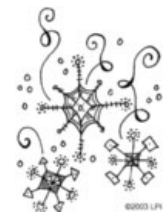
We will be celebrating the Holyday with a 4:00PM Mass of anticipation on Friday, December 31st and on Saturday, January 1st at 9:00AM. Both Masses will be in the Church.

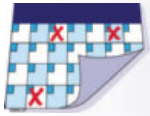


Join us in taking a moment to thank God for the past year and to offer the New Year up to God for his blessing and protection. All are welcome!

Snow and Weather Closings

In the event of snow or weather closings for the parish, please check Channel 12 WISN-TV or WISN.com (WISN website) for closures. Please also note to look for “St. Therese–Milwaukee” in Milwaukee County. (Sometimes there is confusion with “St. Theresa” and “St. Therese” other cities and counties of the archdiocese.)





Parish Events for the Week

Sunday, December 26th

Parish Office Closed

9:00AM Mass – Also Live Streamed on Facebook

Monday, December 27th

No Meetings Scheduled

Tuesday, December 28th

6:30PM Prayer & Worship Committee (ZOOM)

Wednesday, December 29th

No Meetings Scheduled

Thursday, December 30th

7:00PM Group 100 AA (MC)

Friday, December 31st

4:00PM Holyday Mass

Saturday, January 1st – Happy New Year!

9:00AM Holyday Mass

4:00PM Weekend Mass

Sunday, January 2nd

9:00AM Mass – Also Live Streamed on Facebook

CH=Church, CHP=Chapel, GLP=God's Littlest Place, GN=Good News Gathering Place, HH=Heck Hall, KIT=Heck Hall Kitchen, LIB=Library, MC=Miriam's Corner, RR=Raphael Room, STR=St. Therese Room

Thank You!

Thank you, St. Therese Congregation, for inviting our S.V.D.P. conference to our Sharing Sunday program every year. Without your support, we would not exist. God bless you.

Richard Lemke

Many Thanks to All!

We have so many people to thank for a very successful Cookie Sale. Thank God for good weather and the bakers of St. Therese. Thank you to our 25 bakers. You outdid yourselves contributing 300 pounds of deliciousness. Thank you to our buyers. One buyer told us it was the best selection ever. It was our best sale ever and final numbers will be posted in a future bulletin. About half of our orders were online preorder, another quarter were in church orders and the remaining quarter was sold out in 20 minutes.

Thank you to the Journal Sentinel for the extra publicity this year. Thank you to Nancy, Christine and Rosina-the cookie committee. Thank you to Jim, Lloyd, Shari, Laura and Gloria for helping with set-up and packing. Finally, thank you to Heather for handling all of the technology: on-line orders, website, sign, phone orders, eBoard. Finally, an apology. We had to turn away at least 50 people who did not preorder. Yeah, we are that good. Blessings to all of you.

Monthly Maintenance Collection

Next weekend, January 1st/2nd, we have our separate Monthly Collection to replenish our parish Maintenance Fund. Since we are not taking up a collection during Mass, please consider doing one of the following:

- Drop your donation in the collection basket at the Bluemound entrance.
- Donate online at <https://sainttheresemilwaukee.weshareonline.org>
- Mail your donation to the parish office.

Since inception, this separate collection has provided critical monetary resources for repairing and improving our parish's buildings and grounds. If you can't contribute to this important program next weekend, you can make a donation any of the ways listed above at any time. Thank you for your continuing support.

From the Earth Ministry: Eco-Friendly Deicing



Winter in Wisconsin means snow and ice. We try to keep our driveways and walkways clear to avoid slips and falls. However, salt can damage concrete and is harmful to the environment. The chloride that is contained in rock salt can wash into lakes and streams



and even seep into our water table. The concentration can build over the winter and reach levels harmful to plankton and fish. Salt can be harmful to pets by irritating their paws or making them sick if they ingest it by licking their paws. Salt spray can also harm plants and shrubs by causing them to lose their cold hardiness. Many municipalities are reducing their use of salt by diluting the brine with organic things such as beet juice, beer waste and pickle brine.

Here are some eco-friendly things you can do at home:

Shoveling - The best deterrent to ice is to shovel as soon after a snowfall as possible to allow the sunshine to dry out surfaces and avoid ice build-up.

Organic Salt-free Deicers – These can be found at Outpost, hardware or big box stores and do not contain rock salt. They are a bit pricier but do the job safely.

Sand or Kitty Litter – Provide traction and for sand, a great way to use up excess from a sandbox.

Wood By-products – Wood shavings and sawdust from your workshop provide traction. So does ash from last night's fire. Ash also darkens the snow, attracting heat from the sun for melting.

Coffee Grounds – Sprinkling used grounds will help speed melting and provide some traction. This does not work very quickly so it is best done when temperatures aren't too low and the sun is shining.



Rising Stars Volunteer Tutors Needed

Help at-risk students in Milwaukee schools strengthen reading and math skills. Tutors are needed during the school day, after school and on Saturday morning. Orientation is provided.

Please contact: **Laura Harvancik**
262-787-1018 • risingstars@ssndcp.org



School Sisters of Notre Dame
Central Pacific Province

Catechesis Corner

- Greetings! A blessed Christmas and Happy New Year to all of our dedicated Catechists/Aides and Families in our Religious Education program! There are NO CLASSES on Sunday, December 26th and Sunday, January 2nd. We observe this Holy Christmas season and allow extra time for our families to participate in family gatherings and Church services. May all enjoy the Holidays and REJOICE in the GIFT of OUR SAVIOR, JESUS!



Intentions & Readings for the Week



December Sanctuary Candle

†Paul Warpechowski

Sunday, December 26th

Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 [cf. 1]/Col 3:12-17/Lk 2:41-52

Monday, December 27th

1 Jn 1:1-4/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12 [12]/Jn 20:1a, 2-8

Tuesday, December 28th

*1 Jn 1:5—2:2/Ps 124:2-3, 4-5, 7b-8 [7]/Mt 2:13-18
8:30AM †Imogene McShane*

Wednesday, December 29th

1 Jn 2:3-11/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6 [11a]/Lk 2:22-35

Thursday, December 30th

1 Jn 2:12-17/Ps 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10 [11a]/Lk 2:36-40

Friday, December 31st

*1 Jn 2:18-21/Ps 96:1-2, 11-12, 13 [11a]/Jn 1:1-18
4:00PM St. Therese Parish Community*

Saturday Mass, January 1st

*Nm 6:22-27/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 [2a]/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21
9:00AM †Anne Nee
4:00PM †Gregory Enderson*

Sunday Mass, January 2nd

*Lk 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 [cf. 11]/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-18
9:00AM St. Therese Parish Community*



Matt Bell, Alyce Breitweiser, Brandon Choe, Michael Czamecki, Kylie Doyne, Ashley DeLuca & Family, Gayle Falk, Ethel Forster, Mary Jane Holck, Diane Janosch, Judy Johnson, Ronnie Kerchefski, Pete Lovinus, Kathy Manthe, Kim McGee, Rich Sanger, Kaity Shields, Edward Smith, Mary Beth Stabo, Robert Szablewski, JoAnne Van de Castelee, Crystal Webb, Duwayne Wing

Prayer Materials and Informational Brochures

If you have prayer materials or informational brochures to put out in the church, please remember that the items must be approved first by the parish office. There are a number of reasons why we can and cannot put certain items out. If you have any questions, please contact Heater in the Parish Office.



Travel for the Beatification of Fr. Rutilio Grande

You are invited to join a delegation to El Salvador from January 18-24, 2022. The occasion is the celebration of the beatification of Father Rutilio Grande García. Fr. Grande was a Jesuit priest who took the lessons of Vatican II to heart and changed the Catholic Church in El Salvador. He was assassinated in 1977, with two other Salvadorans. His life and work were a major influence for St. Oscar Romero.

The delegation will be led by SHARE - El Salvador. It will include the beatification ceremony of Fr. Rutilio Grande, the Route of the Martyrs, and the tomb of St. Romero. Participants will learn about the current human rights situation in El Salvador. There will be side trips to communities in the countryside. The cost is approximately \$650, and includes transportation within El Salvador, food, guest house, translation and organization of the visit. Airfare is additional. For further information, call Pat Safavi at 414-477-5616.

Year End Giving & Contribution Statements

Year End Contribution Statements will be generated in early January. The statements will include contributions from all sources, including WeShare. However, only weekly envelopes, stock contributions, and maintenance donations are included. Advent Giving, Mission Contributions, and Sharing Sunday are pass through; that is, the donation goes to the recipient charity, not St. Therese.

If your address has changed, please let our Interim Bookkeeper Christine know. The information can be updated prior to mailing the statements.

If you plan to donate stock to St. Therese by December 31st, please contact our Interim Bookkeeper Christine for our brokerage information. Please also note, per the Archdiocese, that the CARES Act allows for a \$300 charitable deduction in 2021 (\$600 if married and filing a joint return) if you take the standard deduction. Please check with your tax advisor for more information.

If you have any questions please contact Interim Bookkeeper Christine Jensen at christine@stthereseemke.org, or (262) 391-1851.

Take a GYFT on your way out of Mass

Stop by the Grow Your Faith Table (GYFT) by the Bluemound entrance and pick up Table Topics for families. It has discussion and prayers for each season of the church year. There is one topic and prayer for each season. So there is Advent, Christmas and the Epiphany to start. You are welcome to any of the additional items on the table as well.

Attention: Committees, Groups, Ministries

If you haven't already done so, please submit meeting dates and reserve rooms for committee, group, and ministry meetings for 2022. Meeting dates must be submitted each year (there is no "automatic" listing on the parish calendar or room reservations). Make sure your 2022 dates are submitted to Heather in the Parish Office no later than January 3rd.

Have you taken Communion to the Sick or Homebound?

If you used a pyx from the sacristy to bring Communion to the Sick or Homebound, please be sure to bring it back so that another parishioner can use it. If you take Eucharist to someone on a regular basis, you are welcome to keep one to use.

St Therese follows a no weapons policy inside the facility at all times. If you are a conceal carry permit holder please secure your weapons in your vehicle, using proper law enforcement guidelines, prior to attending mass and or other events in the facility.



CHRISTMAS 2021

The angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for behold, I proclaim to you good news of great joy that will be for all the people." Luke 2:10

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Imagine being a lowly shepherd, watching over your sheep on a typical night, and then suddenly, your life changes forever. A bright light and a multitude of angels appear, proclaiming that "great joy" is to be had. While the message was one of celebration and awe, I can't help but think that if it were me, I too would be a little more frightened than overjoyed in the moment.

How many times have we been struck with fear in our lives? During the past year, many of us faced the fear of a worldwide pandemic, a serious health diagnosis and possibly a job loss. During difficult times, it can be hard to "fear not," as the angels assured the shepherds.

No matter where you find yourself this Christmas – perhaps back to Mass for the first time in a long time, or in the same pew you've been sitting in for years – please know that Jesus loves you and wants to be in a relationship with you.

This coming year, I encourage you to reconnect, rediscover, and renew your relationship with Jesus and his Church. Here in the Archdiocese of Milwaukee, you'll discover a multitude of opportunities to encounter the love of Jesus and deepen your spiritual life.

Together, let us not fear but rejoice in the "good news of great joy!"

Sincerely yours in Christ,
Jerome E. Listecki
Most Reverend Jerome E. Listecki
Archbishop of Milwaukee

Flower/Candle Memorial Donations for the Christmas Season

In this season of giving, please consider remembering a loved one or honoring a special intention by donating a memorial toward the cost of flowers and candles for our church environment that enhance our worship during the Christmas Season. Please complete the form below, include your donation of any amount, and return both in the collection basket at any mass or send it to the Parish Office. Thank you for your generosity!



Candle and Flower Donations—PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Donor Name _____
Phone () _____ Amount Enclosed \$ _____
Select one: In Memory In Honor In Thanksgiving
Intention _____
Publish in bulletin? Yes No Print intention, not donor

Parish Pastoral Council 1st Tuesday of the Month at 6:30PM

To contact a Parish Pastoral Council Member, send an email to council@sttheresemke.org or leave a message for them in the parish office.

Chairperson

Tim Schwaller

Vice Chairperson

Catherine Pinto

Secretary

Joe Schlater

Trustees

Dennis Feger

Kathy Hubrich (414) 839-2669

Members-At-Large

Sr. Marilyn Metz Linda Okruhlicka

Art Nenning

Saint Vincent de Paul
(414) 462-7837

Hospital Visits

The Federal Privacy Regulation (HIPAA—Health Insurance Portability & Accountability Act) prohibits hospitals from informing churches of a patient's presence unless the patient gives permission for the hospital to do so. If you are admitted to a hospital and would like a pastoral visit, please contact Heather Goeden in the Parish Office.

Prayer List for Mass

It is our privilege to pray at our weekend masses for those in need. If you would like to add a name to the list, please complete the form at sainttheresemilwaukee.org/prayerlist or call Heather in the Parish Office.

Need Prayer?

Call the Prayer Network at
(414) 607-0681.

Need Holy Communion?

Call Heather in the Parish Office at
(414) 771-2500.

The deadline for the January 2nd Bulletin has passed. The next available bulletin is the January 9th Bulletin.

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