

# 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.

January 9th, 2022



## 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

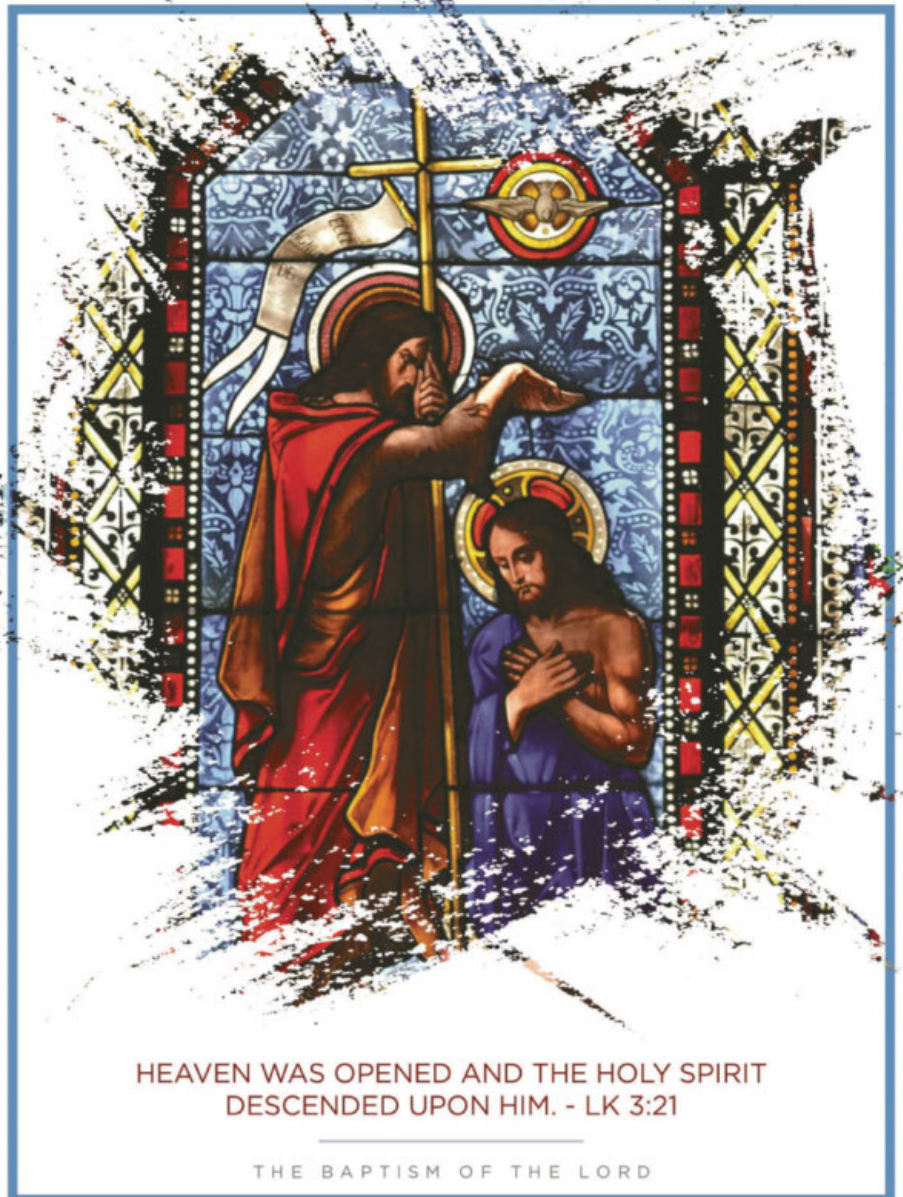
Rick Reinders – Coordinator of High School  
& Youth Confirmation  
rreinders@sttheresemke.org

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



HEAVEN WAS OPENED AND THE HOLY SPIRIT  
DESCENDED UPON HIM. - LK 3:21

THE BAPTISM 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:**

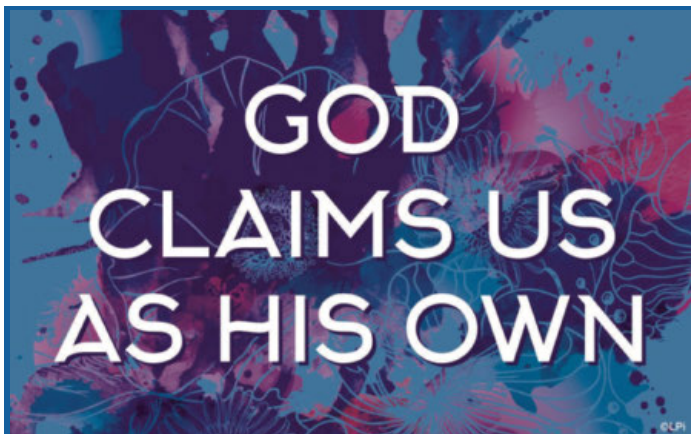
8:00AM–12:00PM Onsite

12:00PM–4:00PM Remote

**Friday & Saturday:** Closed

**Sunday:** 10:00AM–11:30AM Onsite

*Any changes to the hours are listed inside.*



*“We are called to live our baptism every day, as new creatures, clothed in Christ.” — Pope Francis*

What reference point do you use when making decisions? Many times, impulse takes control and decisions are made based solely on emotion and desire. We all know that these types of decisions can often get us into trouble. When a person has a confident sense of who they are and a real understanding of what is important and of value, the likelihood of kneejerk impulsive choices diminishes. Baptism gives us what we need to make well informed and purposeful decisions. By this simple gesture, God claims us as His own and provides us with the identity and purpose we need to properly live life.

It is tremendously reassuring, when we truly embrace this revelation and realize that we no longer have to wonder about the purpose of our lives or struggle to find our way. The answer of who we are in God has been given to us. We no longer have to fumble around, trip over ourselves or walk aimlessly about. Issues surrounding the sacredness of life, the meaning of death, the protection of those most vulnerable, care for the weak and the poor, offering hospitality to those in search of a home, the purpose and proper place of work, how to create a just social order, caring for creation, and understanding our roles as heralds and stewards are just a few of the wonderful gifts baptism brings. When we make decisions based on things such as these core Gospel truths we really act as Christ himself, revealing to others the new creations that we are. This is how we live our baptism.

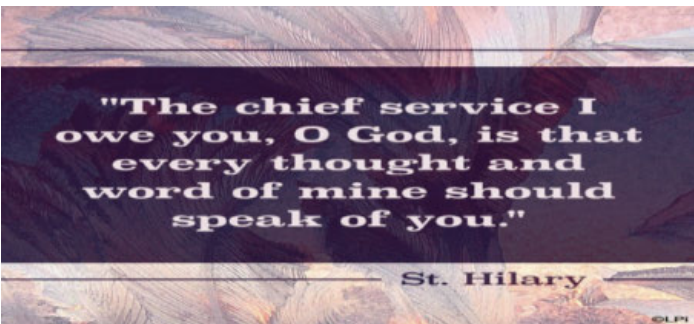
It is difficult to walk against the tide. Yet, that is precisely what baptism calls us to do. Although we are sinners, in need of mercy and far from perfection we are called to order our life and make decisions based upon the wisdom and guidance of Almighty God. He alone is the one who can claim us as His sons and daughters. Standing up for our principles will not make us popular. But who ever said Christianity is a popularity contest? Baptism calls us to stand up for that which goes against the grain of secularism. Standing in line with other sinners, we have our anchor to steady us in the tempests of life and God is very pleased. Forge ahead. There is nothing to fear. ©LPi

### Thank You

To the anonymous donor of the cost of the new Christmas decorations and a box of disposable face masks. We appreciate your generosity.

### Ta-da!

The numbers are in and the final total for the cookie sale is \$2,647.70. The only expense was for containers. We cannot thank you enough for your contributions. We are truly blessed.



### 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.

### 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 Heather in the Parish Office.

### Schedule a Mass Intention

Please consider scheduling a mass intention in memory of a loved one or in honor of an anniversary or special event. Most weekend Masses are full for 2022. Please contact the Parish Office to see what dates are open. There are still quite a few weekday Masses open. Please contact Heather Goeden in the Parish Office to schedule your Mass intentions.

### Donation Opportunity

- Disposable Masks: \$10/box or \$50 for 5 boxes

### Snow and Weather Closings

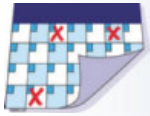
In the event of snow or weather closings for the parish, please check Channel 12 WISN-TV or WISN.com (WISN website) for closures. Please also note to look for “St. Therese–Milwaukee” in Milwaukee County. (Sometimes there is confusion with “St. Theresa” and “St. Therese” other cities and counties of the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



#### CHURCH SUPPORT

Envelopes & Offertory – Christmas	\$ 4,317.00
Envelopes & Offertory – December 26th	\$ 2,121.00
Envelopes & Offertory – Holyday (12/31 & 1/1)	\$ 511.00
Envelopes & Offertory – January 1st/2nd	\$ 5,011.00
Maintenance Donations	\$ 263.00

Please remember St. Therese in your will!



# Parish Events for the Week

## Sunday, January 9th

### Sharing Weekend

- 9:00AM Mass – Also Live Streamed on Facebook
- 10:00AM Sunday Morning Catechesis Preschool – Grade 8 Program (ATRIUM)
- 10:00AM High School Program (MC)

## Monday, January 10th

No Meetings Scheduled

## Tuesday, January 11th

- 7:00PM Christian Formation Committee (MC)

## Wednesday, January 12th

No Meetings Scheduled

## Thursday, January 13th

- 7:00PM Group 100 AA (MC)

## Friday, January 14th

No Meetings Scheduled

## Saturday, January 15th

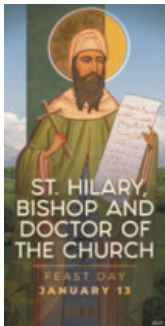
- 4:00PM Mass

## Sunday, January 16th

- 9:00AM Mass – Also Live Streamed on Facebook
- 10:00AM Sunday Morning Catechesis Preschool – Grade 8 Program (ATRIUM)
- 10:00AM Confirmation Preparation (MC)

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

## St. Hilary of Poitiers, Bishop and Doctor of the Church | January 13



Born a pagan, St. Hilary (c. 315 – c. 367) studied philosophy and the meaning of life, eventually making his way through the bible. He became a convert and was appointed bishop of Poitiers in 353. Sometimes referred to as the Hammer of the Arians, St. Hilary defended the Nicene Creed against a popular heresy, Arianism. He was exiled to Phrygia for opposing Roman emperor Constantius II, who preferred the heresy which denies Christ's divinity. From Phrygia St. Hilary fought with his pen, zealously writing against the heresy.

Eventually he was allowed to return to Poitiers, but did so by a circuitous route, preaching against Arianism all the way. St. Hilary was likely the first writer of hymns in the West, his writings on the Trinity, Psalms and Gospel of Matthew survive today. St. Hilary was created Doctor of the Church, a title given to those who provided important contributions to theology and doctrine, in 1851 by Pope Pius IX.

## Sharing Weekend is This Weekend: January 8th/9th

The mission of Eras Senior Network is to engage and support seniors, adults with disabilities, and family caregivers in leading meaningful lives. Eras provides 680 clients in Waukesha County and 1954 clients in Milwaukee County with transportation to medical appointments, the pharmacy, and grocery stores, as well as assistance with grocery shopping, wellness calls, and yard cleanup.

All services are provided at no cost to clients thanks to the support provided by our caring volunteers. To learn more about Eras, please visit our website at [www.eras.org](http://www.eras.org).

Donations can be made at Mass, by mailing to the Parish Office or by going to <https://sainttheresemilwaukee.weshareonline.org/sharing>. If you are writing a check, please make it out to Eras Senior Network. Thank you for your generosity.

## Earth Stewardship Ministry: Introduction to PFAS

This is the first in a series of articles on PFAS. As we learn more about the health risks of these “forever chemicals,” we will hear of them more frequently. The Earth Ministry team wants to prepare you to understand PFAS. The letters stand for Per- and Poly-Fluoro Alkyl Substances. Some of these manufactured chemicals have been used since the 1940's.



They are found in and associated with the making of firefighting foam, Teflon, and liquid repellents like Scotchguard, Stainmaster and Gore-Tex. They are not currently regulated by the federal government or the state of Wisconsin.

We are now realizing that they can cause serious health problems, such as decreased fertility, high blood pressure, developmental delays, cancers (prostate, kidney, and testicular), reduced ability to fight infections, interference with the body's natural hormones, increased cholesterol, and increased risk of obesity. The PFAS can be found in water, soil, air, food, and many materials found in homes and workplaces. They breakdown very, very slowly and so they have been building up in people, animals and the environment since the 1940's.

## A Stewardship Moment – The Baptism of the Lord

In today's reading from the Gospel of Luke we hear the proclamation of the baptism of Jesus with “all the people.” Indeed, “heaven was opened,” and the Father announced his special favor. Whenever we partake of the body and blood of Christ, heed his call in our daily lives, share his Good News, become instruments of his transforming justice and peace, heaven is opened to us, and through the Holy Spirit, the Lord announces his special favor on us as well.

A good stewardship reflection this week might be this: How, or in what ways, have we personally experienced God's special favor in our lives?

## Catechesis Corner

- We wish all of our families a Blessed and Happy New Year – 2022.
- Religious Education classes will be conducted this Sunday, January 9th, celebrating the Baptism of the Lord. We welcome everyone back and hope that Christmas vacation was renewing and relaxing.
- A meeting of Catechists and Aides was held on January 6th via Zoom to prepare for the second semester.
- Let us start 2022 with kindness, peace, love and care for each other.



# Intentions & Readings for the Week



## January Sanctuary Candle

†Mary Ann Monville

### Sunday, January 9th

*Is 42:1-4, 6-7/Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10 [11b]/Acts 10:34-38/Lk 3:15-16, 21-22*

### Monday, January 10th

*1 Sm 1:1-8/Ps 116:12-13, 14-17, 18-19/Mk 1:14-20*

### Tuesday, January 11th

*1 Sm 1:9-20/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd/Mk 1:21-28*  
8:30AM †Yvonne Braden

### Wednesday, January 12th

*1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20/Ps 40:2 and 5, 7-8a, 8b-9, 10/Mk 1:29-39*

### Thursday, January 13th

*1 Sm 4:1-11/Ps 44:10-11, 14-15, 24-25/Mk 1:40-45*

### Friday, January 14th

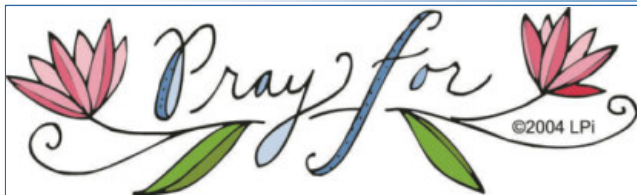
*1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a/Ps 89:16-17, 18-19/Mk 2:1-12*

### Saturday Mass, January 15th

*1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1a/Ps 21:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Mk 2:13-17*  
4:00PM †Christine Melloch

### Sunday Mass, January 16th

*Is 62:1-5/Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 7-8, 9-10 [3]/1 Cor 12:4-11/Jn 2:1-11*  
9:00AM St. Therese Parish Community



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

## Memorializing the Deceased

Because of their commitment to their parish and out of concern for helping it to continue its mission, many parishioners choose to name the parish in their last will and testament. They wish also to remain connected to the community, even in death, by remembrance in prayer. All too frequently, however, their good intentions toward the parish are defeated by wording used in their wills.

When a bequest is made to a parish and the amount of the bequest is attached to the offering of Masses (e.g. "I bequeath to St. X Parish \$10,000 for Masses to be said for my intentions."), the entire amount mentioned must be set aside for Mass offerings. Using this example, 1000 Masses are to be offered for the deceased individual. What many people do not understand is that none of this bequest goes to support the parish and its programs or ministry. Mass offerings are given to the priest who celebrates the Mass, either directly or through a salary offset system, not to the parish and its ministries.

If the intention of donors is to have the parish benefit from their generosity, their wills should be worded in such a manner that it is clear that the bequest is directed to the parish itself. Requests that their intentions be remembered in Masses can also be made, but such requests are separate from and independent of the amount of the bequest. Every Sunday and holy day, the pastor offers the Mass for the People, for the intentions of living and deceased members of the parish. Their intentions will surely be remembered at this time. Since the breadth of God's mercy and the graces of the Eucharist are beyond our human calculations, it is difficult to understand how, from our faith perspective, we would insist on the need for hundreds of Masses to be said for any one specific person.

Since parishes may not accept more Mass offerings than can be fulfilled in a single year, frequently these large numbers of Mass offerings must be directed elsewhere, precluding the direct involvement of the parish in these prayers for the deceased.

The wording of the bequest can also result in tax implications. When Mass offerings are attached to the bequest, the amount is free of estate tax only within certain limits; a bequest made directly to the parish is completely free from estate tax, regardless of the amount of the gift.

## St. Florian's Card Social

### Friday, January 14th from 6:00PM-11:00PM

For a \$15 donation, enjoy beer, soda, coffee and a fabulous buffet served at approximately 7:30PM. Chances for fantastic raffle prizes will be sold all night long in addition to some 50/50 drawings.

This event is located in the St. Florian School Cafeteria (1215 South 45 Street, West Milwaukee). Elevator available. We ask that you not enter the building before 5:30PM.

Questions? Please call 414-383-3565, extension 0.

## I Hope I Am Like Him

"Who is this Christ? Is he like you?"

Perhaps you've heard this story, often attributed to the life of St. Teresa of Calcutta. A sick man asked her this question, as he marveled at her tireless service to himself and others in the name of someone named Jesus Christ.

"He is nothing like me," the saint is said to have answered. "But I hope I am like him."

Though the authenticity of this exchange cannot be verified, its message rings perfectly true: all the value of our stewardship lies in its relativity to the one in whose name we perform it.

Consider the figure of John the Baptist — a magnificent, towering character even purely from a literary or historical perspective. A martyr who fed on wild locusts

and boldly spoke truth to power — a man so great some mistook him for the Messiah.

But why is he great? Because he prepared the way. All his accomplishments and escapades mean nothing if they are taken out of the context of salvation history. He only makes sense relative to Christ — and this is exactly as he wanted it. "One worthier than I is coming," he insists. And because of that humility and that total embrace of God's will, he is given one of the greatest honors in the New Testament — he baptizes the Son of God.

Let's examine our lives in the light of their relativity to Christ. How do we prepare the way? When Christ comes to us, what do we do? How do we leave ourselves open to be actors in God's plan? ©LPi — Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

*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.*

## Thank You

Thank you for all who made our celebrations of Advent and Christmas so meaningful, prayerful, and beautiful:

- To our Liturgical Ministers and our priest presiders, Father Hugh Birdsall and Father Norm Oswald.
- To all those who offered up prayers for Fr. Joe and his family.
- To Deanna Sullivan who cares for our candles and altar bread and wine.
- To our dedicated cantors Tim Schwaller and Jim Jensen.
- To our Interim Coordinator of Music – Kathy Luty and our substitute organists David Bohn and Kate Sponholz.
- To our Advent Giving Committee, one of the ministries of our Human Concerns Committee.
- To those who decorated the church: Karen, Jacob, Sarah and Clark Eisenberger, Peyton Goeden, Dick Hopefl, Kathy Hubrich, Gary Kolesari, Linda Okrulica, Jennifer, Caitlyn, and Julianna Poethig, Gloria Ratkowski, Pat Safavi, and Joe Schlater.
- All who participated in the Advent Wreath lighting at each mass of Advent and to Kathy Hubrich for coordinating this special part of the liturgy.
- Those who gave the parish a special “Christmas gift” donation.
- Our competent and reliable Parish Staff: Heather Goeden, Office & Facilities Administrator; Christine Jensen, Interim Bookkeeper; Dr. Jean Marie Weber, Christine Reinders, and Rick Reinders, Catechesis Coordinators; and Fr. Joe Koyickal, Parish Administrator, for many things they do to support all the ministries of our parish community.
- All who attended and participated in our liturgical celebrations and outreach ministries this Holy Season!

## Stewardship Update

The Stewardship Committee wishes to thank all those who responded to St. Therese’s Parish Stewardship Commitment for 2022. The Time in prayer, Talent in Ministry, and your financial Treasure were steps in Embracing the Little Way More.

This year’s responses were less than last year at 80%. However, financial commitments were 90% of last year’s. 26% Embraced the Little Way More with their pledge of treasure. A few pledged their talents in ministry as well. Thank you for your continued and faithful stewardship as St. Therese makes a Catholic Comeback from the pandemic.

## Ministers Needed

We thank the group of dedicated ministers who help out each weekend and encourage you to join them! Please consider either rejoining or joining one of our Liturgical Ministries: Altar Servers, Eucharistic Ministers, Lectors, or Hospitality Ministers. Some of the ministries have been reconfigured to work for our current needs. Training is provided. Contact Heather Goeden in the Parish Office for more information.

## 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](mailto: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 Nanning

## 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](http://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.

## Bulletin deadline:

Monday, 8:30AM

## Announcement deadline:

Thursday, 1:00PM

All submissions must be in writing; email preferred.

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