

St. Teresa of Avila Church Est. 1869

AUGUST 22, 2021 - THE 21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

PASTOR

Rev. Arthur E. Mattulke
Email: pastorsttakron@gmail.com

DEACON

Ron Adamczak

RECTORY

5771 Buell Street
P.O. Box 168
Akron, NY 14001
(716) 542-9103
Fax: (716) 542-2444
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 Street
(716) 542-5777
Website: stredakron.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.



MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday Liturgies8:00 AM, 10:15 AM
Saturday Vigil.....4:30 PM
Daily Mass8:00 AM, except Wednesday 5:30 PM
Saturday9:00 AM
Vigil of Holy Days5:30 PM
Holy Days8:00 AM, 7:30 PM

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturdays 3:30 to 4:00 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

Saturday, August 28 - St. Augustine

4:30 Benker Family
by Estate

Sunday, August 29

8:00 Connie Caprio
by Husband & Children

10:15 In Memory of Lillian
Rutkowski
by Sr. Ruth



Scripture Readings For the Week

Monday - 1 Thessalonians 1:1-5,8b-10

Matthew 23:13-22

Tuesday - Revelation 21:9b-14

John 1:45-51

Wednesday - 1 Thessalonians 2:9-13

Matthew 23:27-32

Thursday - 1 Thessalonians 3:7-13

Matthew 24:42-51

Friday - 1 Thessalonians 4:1-8

Matthew 25:1-13

Saturday - 1 Thessalonians 4:9-11

Matthew 25:14-30

Sunday - Deuteronomy 4:1-2,6-8

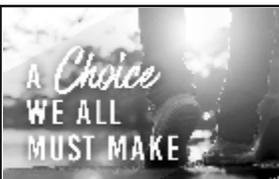
James 1:17-18,21b-22,27

Mark 7:1-8,14-15,21-23



MASS INTENTIONS

There are openings in the daily and weekend Mass schedule during the up coming months. Please contact the rectory to schedule a mass.



August 22, 2021
21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

“Far be it from us to forsake the Lord for the service of other gods.” We struggle with our gods. They appear in the forms of things like money, power, prestige, popularity, privilege, and self-fulfillment. We like these “gods” because they make us feel good and ask very little of us in return. When we worship them, we worship ourselves. How can you go wrong with that? We buy into the illusion that if something can give us a comfortable life, free of want and need, then it is worth setting other things aside to pursue it. In essence, we sell our souls. Our struggle with “who is God” and to whom do we belong is a real one and one that can easily find us empty and experiencing disillusionment. The devil tempted Jesus in the desert and promised him more. We are promised “more.” But in pursuing the more and the satisfying we lose track of the cost, and the cost is great. We sacrifice our very life in pursuit of something disguised as life. We sacrifice truth for something that only “feels” true. While the true and real God certainly promises us many things, many things are also required. It is not about the warm and secure feelings and self-absorption the world wants to provide, but of giving back. There can be no lukewarm stance with regard to faith. If we are in, then faith in Jesus Christ asks us to do some difficult things: work in service of God’s kingdom (not our own), love our enemies, offer no resistance to injury, that we must die to ourselves in order to find ourselves, and trust that Jesus truly gives us his flesh and blood to eat and drink. These are hard things to accept and even harder to put into practice. It is no wonder that many, who may be attracted to Jesus at first, walk away in pursuit of the more self-satisfying gods. But truth is truth. If we cannot accept it from the lips of Jesus Christ, then where else will we find it? To whom can we go? There is only one source of truth and life, Jesus Christ. Jesus has the words of eternal life and if we do not go to him, then where else will we find this gift? But we must be faithful and buy into the whole package deal that requires sacrifice and fidelity. When we do, we find ourselves, through the Body and Blood of Christ, connected to the Source of all life and then intimately bound with our brothers and sisters. We all have to decide whether we want to stay or go and if we can accept what Jesus has to say. It’s a choice we all have to make.

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In your prayers...

For those victims and destroyed communities of the magnitude 7.2 earthquake that struck over the weekend in Haiti along with Tropical Storm Grace which caused flooding and landslides: we pray to the Lord...

Please pray for the sick of the parish and their family members, especially Bob Tiedt, Sophia Benintende, Nancy O’Donnell, John Ernst, Shirley Lantz, Liam Williams, Crystal and Leah Howard, Nancy Tordy, Sister Bea Leising, Paul Schifferle, Matthew Hanlon, Lorraine Sylvester, Sonny Grainy, Gail and Charlie Pisarek and Darlene Duke.

Please continue to pray for an increase in vocations to the priesthood, religious life, the diaconate and lay ministries, and that the Lord guide the work of the hands of vocation directors, especially our own Fr. Dave Baker.

THE TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - AUGUST 22, 2021

Religious Education - Have you registered your children for September classes? Classes resume the Sunday after Labor Day. Return the registration form and fee if you have not already done so. Visit our website at streledakron.wordpress.com.

Are you interested in joining a new Group Study? *The Search*, which examines the great big story of everything—life and death, sorrow and happiness, science and faith, will take place on Monday evenings or Thursday mornings. Please call the Rectory or use the sheet in the narthex to sign up today! Cost for a workbook is \$15. The first class will be held Mon., September 27th or Thur., September 30th.

Attention all 8th grade to 12th grade students - we are forming a NEW Youth Group and want you to attend an initial planning meeting this Sunday (tonight), August 22nd at 6:00PM in the Parish Hall. Pizza and Wings will be served. This is not Catechism, this is a Youth Group for fun. Bring a friend and come with ideas of events you would like the group to do. Couple we will be doing; Trunk & Treats, Breakfast with Santa, and an Easter Egg Hunt. Other activities include bonfires, camping trips, youth rallies and more. See you Sunday!

Fr. Art's vacation is August 22nd to the 31st. There will be no daily Masses held at St. Teresa's during his vacation. Please join our sister Parishes for daily Mass. Our Lady of Peace in Clarence weekday Masses are Mon 8:00 am, Tue-Thu 6:30 & 8:00am, Fri 6:30am. St. Maximilian Kolbe Masses are Monday and Friday - 8:00 AM at Corfu Site; Tuesday and Thursday - 8:00 AM at E. Pembroke Site; Wednesday - 7:00 PM at Corfu Site. Fr. Dave Borowiak will be present for the weekend Masses.

Thank you to the Picnic Committee

who worked so hard to make a wonderful picnic for everyone! A good time was had by all and we are looking forward to the next parish event when we can again join together to celebrate our parish community.



Renewal & Development Committee of the Diocese of Buffalo will be holding a **Special Mass at Our Lady of Fatima** in Lewiston on Sunday, August 29th at 3 pm to kick off the next phase of the Renewal. Each Parish will send a renewal advocate. Any and all parishioners are welcome to attend Mass. Thank you to Lisa Reigle who will be our representative.

Mark Your Calendars: The Diocese of Buffalo Annual Golden Anniversary Special Mass will take place on Sunday, October 24th at St. Joseph's Cathedral. The Diocese of Buffalo invites all married couples who are celebrating their 50th, 60th or 70th anniversaries to this very special Mass. For more information, please contact the Rectory.

Healing Mass - St. Francis of Assisi Church, 150 Broad St., Tonawanda, September 8th at 7 pm in the church. Fr. Richard DiGiulio will be the celebrant. All are welcome to attend.

A VOCATION VIEW - "To whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life." Do Peter's words in today's Gospel strike a chord with you? Do you feel like there's nothing satisfying in this world except your faith? Maybe Jesus wants you to share that faith with others in a Church vocation. Call Fr. Dave Baker at 716-847-5535 to start the conversation or visit bufalovocations.org.



- **Sunday - August 22** - New Youth Group Planning Meeting open to all 8 - 12 students, 6 pm, parish hall.
- **Wednesday, August 25** - Stop in to help keep the gardens looking good - your choice of area to weed.
- **Saturday, August 28** - Pro-Life Prayer Group, 9:30 am, in the parking lot near the St. Teresa Statue



A German Shepherd, Doberman and a cat have died. All three are faced with God who wants to know what they believe in. The German Shepherd says "I believe in discipline, training and loyalty to my master." "Good" says God, "then sit down on my right side." "Doberman, what do you believe in?" Asks God. The Doberman answers: "I believe in the love, care and protection of my master." "Aha" said God, "you may sit at my left." Then he looks at the cat, and asks: "and what do you believe in?" The cat then answers: "I believe you're sitting in my seat."



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK:

"The question we must ask ourselves is: What do we believe deeply enough to die for? Until we can answer that question, we cannot know what we are living for."

Sam Guzman, from his book The Catholic Gentleman

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