

# St. Teresa of Avila Parish

**St. Teresa Church**  
(Union City)

**Weekend Masses**  
**Saturday: 4:30 P.M.**  
**Sunday: 10:45 A.M.**  
**Confessions: Saturday, 4:00 P.M.**

**Rev. D. G. Davis III, Pastor**  
**Rev. Mr. Randy Kondrlik, Deacon**  
9 Third Avenue  
Union City, Pennsylvania 16438  
*Fr. Davis: 663-3041 Office: 438-3408*  
Email: stteresa@verizon.net  
www.st-teresa-unioncity.org

**Our Lady of Fatima Chapel**  
(Canadohta Lake)

**Weekend Masses**  
(Memorial Day – Labor Day)  
**Sunday: 9:30 A.M.**  
**Confessions: before Mass**

## WELCOME

If you are new to our parish, we extend a warm welcome and hope you will find our parish community a place where your faith will be nourished. Newcomers are asked to introduce themselves to the pastor and call the office to register.

## WEEKDAY SERVICES

See inside of bulletin for current weekday schedule.

## BAPTISM

By appointment. Parents must attend pre-baptismal instruction.

## MARRIAGE

Arrangements must be made six months in advance.

## SACRAMENT OF THE SICK

Please let the pastor know when a family member or a friend is ill, either at home, in the hospital or at a nursing home.

## CHURCH ORGANIZATIONS

### ● ROSARY-ALTAR SOCIETY

Meets the first Monday of each month at 7:00 P.M.

### ● KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Meet every third Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.

### ● RELIGIOUS EDUCATION GUILD

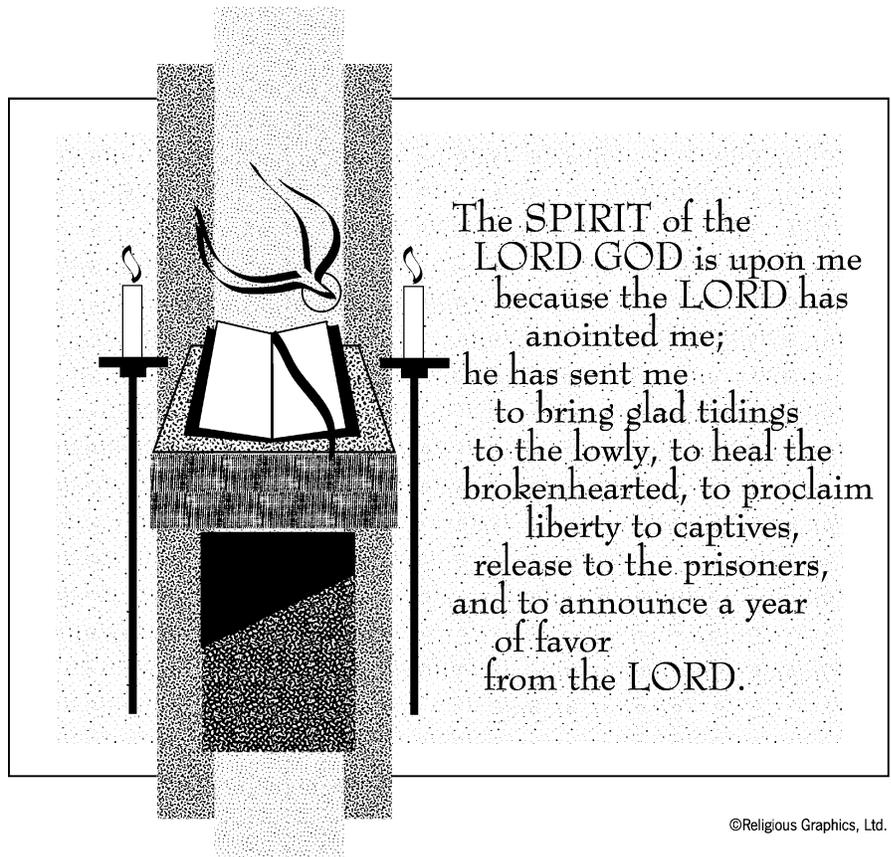
Meets during the school term.

### ● SCRIPTURE DISCUSSION GROUP

1:00 p.m. Wednesdays (Sept. – May)

### ● PARISH CENTER RENTAL

Contact Matt Moon: 814-490-1494



The SPIRIT of the  
LORD GOD is upon me  
because the LORD has  
anointed me;  
he has sent me  
to bring glad tidings  
to the lowly, to heal the  
brokenhearted, to proclaim  
liberty to captives,  
release to the prisoners,  
and to announce a year  
of favor  
from the LORD.

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Third Sunday  
of Advent

December 13, 2020

My soul rejoices in my God!

## MASS SCHEDULE AND INTENTIONS

### **Saturday, December 12 Third Sunday of Advent**

4:30pm (St. Teresa) Paul Mongera, Jr. by family

4:30pm (St. Thomas) Gary Munsee

### **Sunday, December 13 Third Sunday of Advent**

8:45am (St. Thomas) Mickie Tomcho by Andy Tomcho

10:45am (St. Teresa) Intentions of our Parish families

### **Monday, December 14 St. John of the Cross**

8:00am Communion Service

### **Tuesday, December 15 Advent Weekday**

8:00am Philip P. Amoroso by Bob and Theresa May and family

### **Wednesday, December 16 Advent Weekday**

8:00am Leroy and Helen Hoyt by Sophie Combs

### **Thursday, December 17 Late Advent Weekday**

8:00am Alex J. Veilleux by William and Mary Ann Danley

### **Friday, December 18 Late Advent Weekday**

8:00am Communion Service

### **Saturday, December 19 Fourth Sunday of Advent**

4:30pm (St. Teresa) Margaret Campbell by family and friends

4:30pm (St. Thomas) Ed Burkhart by Joan & Family

### **Sunday, December 20 Fourth Sunday of Advent**

8:45am (St. Thomas) Intentions of Our Parish Family

10:45am (St. Teresa) Thomas Zakovitch by Ilene Zakovitch

**Sacrificial Giving:** The offertory last weekend was \$2,202 for St. Teresa which includes \$2,010 in envelopes and \$192 in loose & \$205 for Our Lady of Fatima in envelopes. Offertory Goal \$3,000

The Union City Food Bank is in need of volunteers to help distribute food on Monday's 9-12noon and/or 4-6pm. Also, every other Friday morning 9-10:30am to unload deliveries from The Second Harvest Food Bank. For more information, call Pat Vallimont (460-8732) or Lynora Rumm (McLane Church 814-734-1907 ext 31)

**The Parish Bulletin is available weekly on line at [st-teresa-unioncity.org](http://st-teresa-unioncity.org)**

**TURTLE'S TOY BOX** is an agency that accepts donations of new/gently loved toys to give to children who are victims of misfortune. Any donations that you might have can be dropped off at the parish office.

### Mass Readings for the Week

Mon. Numbers 24:207,15-17a ♦ Matthew 21:23-27

Tue. Zephaniah 3:1-2,9-13 ♦ Matthew 21:28-32

Wed. Isaiah 45:6b-8,21c-25 ♦ Luke 7:18b-23

Thu. Genesis 49:2, 8-10 ♦ Matthew 1:1-17

Fri. Jeremiah 23:5-8 ♦ Matthew 1:18-25

Sat. Judges 13:2-7,24-25c ♦ Luke 1:5-25

Sun. 2 Samuel 7:1-5,8b-12,14a,16 Romans 16:25-27 ♦ Luke 1:26-38

### **2020 Catholic Services Appeal**

Goal - \$31,004

Amount Pledged to Date - \$28,664

Amount Paid to Date - \$27,469

**Reminder – Please make all CSA checks payable to St. Teresa Church**

### Religious Education

12/13 REP Class, Youth Mass/Grade 4

12/20 REP Class

12/27 no REP Class, Christmas break

01/03 REP Class

Christmas Basket Raffle Currently, The Religious Education Guild (who supports Religious Education) are having their annual Christmas Basket Raffle complete with a \$50.00 Walmart gift card plus many things for wrapping gifts and Christmas itself. Ticket will be \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00. Tickets will be sold before and after all liturgies till **December 20** the date of the drawing. All religious education students will be given tickets to sell to complete for a class treat.

**Anyone that is homebound and wishes to receive the Eucharist may contact Ken Calfo 746-8219, Yvonne Stauffer 438-7017, Ilene Zakovitch 438-3664 or the parish office 438-3408**

**Please Pray for Our Priests:** Rev. Johnathan P. Schmolt, Rev. Thomas N. Trocchio, Rev. Rocco A. Tito, Rev. Thomas J. Whitman, Rev. Marc A. Stockton, Rev. Msgr. Joseph J. Riccardo, V.F

## SCHEDULES FOR DECEMBER 19 & 20

4:30

10:45

### LECTORS

Nancy Ferro

Pat Vallimont

### EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Yvonne Stauffer

Darrell Combs

The monthly Bible Study, "Christology in Film" will continue on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month from 7-9pm, in the former St. Thomas School multi-purpose room, through the end of 2020. All those previously in attendance as well as any new participants are welcome as we show and discuss the film "Jesus of Nazareth." Please mark your calendars.

**Marriage Moment** "Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing. In all circumstances give thanks." (I Thessalonians 5:16) Impossible you say! OK, how about choosing one thing that gives you joy, say one prayer, and be thankful for one thing today. Share.

**A Family Perspective** Today's gospel reports "I am the voice of the one crying out in the desert." Who in your family is crying out with their crazy schedules, suppers that start too late and end too early, cars that don't start, misunderstandings, piles of laundry, unmatched socks and stretched food budgets? Although the list feels endless, there is one who hears you. The words spoken at mass, "The Lord is with you," are not just a hope, they are a fact.

**Your creativity is earnestly solicited:** In previous years, you will remember how wonderfully St. Teresa's Church has been decorated – especially during the special seasons of the year. Advent and Christmas is fast approaching. At the present time, we have no one who has volunteered to be in charge of decorating. **PLEASE** we need someone to step up to the plate and oversee this. If Father Davis asks for your help, please do what you can to help or just let him or the office know if you would be available to help in any way. Many hands make light work.

*If you have a family member or know of someone who is in a nursing home and would like them to receive cards, please call the parish office with their names and addresses. We will publish their names in our bulletin so that parishioners can send them cards.*

**Masses for our deceased loved ones:** The Church teaches us to pray for the dead that they may live eternally in the presence of God. There is no greater prayer than the holy sacrifice of the Mass. If you wish to have a memorial Mass said, please place your request in the collection basket, and include your name and contact information and the name(s) of the deceased. If you wish, you may request a specific date and time for the Mass; however, please be aware that the date and time you request may already be filled, in which case the Mass will be scheduled as close as possible to your request. Alternatively, you may contact Natalie Wilmoth directly at 814-397-4933 to arrange a specific schedule. The normal donation of \$10 should also be placed in the envelope with your request

This year, the parish will decorate its first annual Christmas Remembrance Tree, with ornaments in memory of all those loved ones who have passed away. If you have an ornament like that at home, please let us borrow it for the Christmas season. Simply bring it to us before the day we decorate, December 20, so that we ensure it is hung. Also, all those parishioners who had a funeral for a loved one in the past year, an ornament has been ordered for them, and will be hung on this same tree. All ornaments are yours and can be picked up after we undecorate on January 10.

The parish will be decorating our sanctuary for Christmas after the 10:45am Mass on December 20. Please come and help us. We want our church to be fully reflective of the season. See you then, and thanks in advance. Happy Advent and Merry Christmas!!

**Tis the season. St. Teresa's parish will have "Giving Tags" to make Christmas a little brighter for those in need in our community. These tags will have an age, gender and size for a needed child/teenager. We would appreciate if you are able to take a tag or two and buy a present for that child/teenager. Please wrap and attach the tag to the present and put them in the back of the church or center by December 18.**

**THE WORD AMONG US** Advent edition is available Free of Charge in the back of the church. Please take one and use it for your Daily Meditations during Advent

**MINISTERS FOR CHRISTMAS MASSES** – In the back of the church, you will find a sign-up sheet for the Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Masses. If you are able and willing to serve in any capacity, please put your name on the list. Christmas Eve Mass is 6:30pm and Christmas Day is 10:00am

**STAY HEALTHY-STAY HAPPY-STAY SAFE**

**.As everyone is aware of, due to Covid-19, we are not able to have any books left in the church so we have not been able to use the Word and Song books since this pandemic began. We have some available, if anyone would like to have their own personal copy. PLEASE NOTE – they cannot be left in the church. They must be taken home with you when you leave and then brought back the next time that you come to Mass. Our cost for these books is \$5 each so we are asking if anyone wants one, that they take it and put \$5 in an envelope and drop in the collection basket or take it to the parish office. These books can be found in the back of the church.**

**Make a Difference.** “Every dollar makes a difference in covering our expenses,” says a Trappist abbot. Hundreds of US religious communities struggle to provide for aging members because most senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests served for little pay. Your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious helps these communities bridge the gap, offering support for medications, nursing care, and other necessities. Please be generous.

Thank You, Father, for spiritual leaders and faith-filled friends who keep encouraging us when we are close to giving up. And although we have many reasons to rejoice today, Lord, we also know December 25th can be not-so-merry for a whole host of reasons. We pray for those who are experiencing loss during Advent: relational, financial, spiritual and physical. We pray for those who are coping with loving a prodigal and our friends and family members whose hearts are far from You. We pray for those dealing with unemployment and addictions and chronic sickness... and unending pain and frustrations of all kinds. Thank You, Lord, that You are The Wonderful Counselor and Prince of Peace, even in the midst of our not-so-merry circumstances. Finally, Lord, we ask You to grant us peace. Peace in our homes, peace in our churches, and peace in our hearts, when the world all around us spins out-of-control. Help us to stay focused on You, this Advent isseason and always. Thank You for loving the whole world enough to send the greatest gift, Your Son, so that we might truly have a very merry Christmas. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Anyone who has items that they would like to have in the bulletin, we would like to have it into the parish office on Wednesday morning, if possible

## JOY IN THE WORK

*The Lord your God will bless you in all your harvest and in all the work of your hands, and your joy will be complete*

How often we do feel like working! Relaxing or having fun seems like a better way to while away our hours. However, the Bible tells us that we'll find joy in the satisfaction of our work, Even if we don't particularly like the job situation, some of our coworkers, or perhaps the work itself, if we do our best at all times we can feel fulfilled-and, yes, even joyful-by producing a job well done.

God created us to be productive. He wants us to experience the same joy He feels when He creates by doing our work efficiently, with dedication, commitment, and integrity

If we do our work sloppily, or perhaps will but with a sour attitude, that's not pleasing to God because we're not working in accordance with His will. If we defiantly refuse to do our work well, we won't find the joy of the Lord in what we do. Always do your best!

*Forgive me, Lord, when my attitude toward work is not in accordance with Your will. Teach me to always do my best.*

## ***“Until the Son of God appear”***

“O come, O come, Emmanuel” opens the Advent hymn, gathering voices in hope and praise. It hearkens back to Isaiah's time when God's chosen people called on God to “ransom captive Israel.” Isaiah's words sought to comfort a weary people. And now, through Scripture, his message is brought to us. Bring good news to the oppressed. Set the captives free. Bind up the broken-hearted. Be faithful “until the son of God appear,” and then righteousness will spring up before all nations.

Our waiting cannot be a passive act. We, as followers of Jesus, know what is right. We know that kindness, caring and love must prevail. Our voices cry out in a wilderness of deception and greed, hatred and abuse. We can be witnesses, testifying to the light.

“O Come Desire of Nations bind all peoples in one heart and mind: bid envy, strife and quarrels cease; fill the whole world with heaven's peace.”