

# St. Therese Catholic Church

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## Pastoral Team:

**Rev. Donatus Mgbeajuo, MSP**

Email: donachrisneo@yahoo.com

Contact information: cell (409) 454-3958

Rectory: (409) 238-3001

Deacon Julian Richard (409) 221-2743

Deacon Hazen Kenney (512) 791-0847

Office Hours: Tuesday thru Thursday  
9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.



READINGS FOR THE WEEK	
Sunday March 5	Gen 2:7-9; 3:1-7 Ps 51:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 17 Rom 5:12-19 or 5:12, 17-19 Mt 4:1-11
Monday March 6	Lv 19:1-2, 11-18 Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15 Mt 25:31-46
Tuesday March 7	Is 55:10-11 Ps 34:4-5, 6-7, 16-17, 18-19 Mt 6:7-15
Wednesday March 8	Jon 3:1-10 Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19 Lk 11:29-32
Thursday March 9	Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25 Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 7c-8 Mt 7:7-12
Friday March 10	Ez 18:21-28 Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-7a, 7bc-8 Mt 5:20-26
Saturday March 11	Dt 26:16-19 Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8 Mt 5:43-48

PRAY FOR THE HOMEBOUND	
John Abram	
Mary Brown	
Mary Crossley	
David Jayce Carey	
Courtney Chavis	
Therese Ferguson	
Hollis Fain	
Joe B. Forward	
Theresa Garrett	
Anna Garrick	
Elias Gobert	
James Mims	
John Richard, Sr.	
Alma Thibodeaux	
Sammie Williams	

March Birthday List Happy Birthday to::	
Clinton Giron	1
Calvin Johnson	3
Yvette Spearman	5
Michael Jackson	13
Emma Nelson	17
Enrique Warnell	20
Hazel Johnson	21
Dominique Guillory	24
Orion Guillory	24
Felicia Richard	24
Florence Craig	24
Lisa Jackson	26

Happy Anniversary

Gerald & Virginia Richard	22nd
Walter & Rose Davis	29th

To all our sick and homebound **THANK YOU** so much for your unwavering commitment and contributions to your parish. To better service everyone Fr. Donatus is available to visit **ALL** parishioners at the appointed time. Therefore, Fr. Donatus has reserved Friday's for the Homebound. Please call for an appointment stating whatever service you need or want rendered, communion, reconciliation, etc., so arrangements may be made to best service you.

MINISTERIES FOR THE WEEKEND <u>HOSPITALITY</u>	
Saturday:	Rose Davis, Walter Davis, Richard Scott & Johnny Riggs
Sunday:	Coretta Ambers, Rose Bottley, Joseph Fontenot & Emmanuel Taylor

<u>ANNOUNCER &amp; LECTORS:</u>	
Saturday:	A: John King L: Josie Curtis & Freda Guillory
Sunday:	A: Horace Broussard L: Lucy Jones & Wayne Sparrow

<u>ALTAR SERVER:</u>	
Saturday:	Reagan Pitre & William Pitre
Sunday:	D'Ana Williams

<u>MINISTERS OF COMMUNION:</u>	
Saturday	Cecilia Davis & Emma Nelson
Sunday:	Gloria Richard & Shirley Ray

Stations of the Cross	
Date:	Mar 10, 2017
Time:	6:00 p.m.
Ministry:	Choir

Each Friday a different ministry will be ask to lead the stations, everyone is encouraged to participate.

MASS INTENTIONS	
Sunday March 5	9:00 a.m.
Monday March 6	No Mass
Tuesday March 7	8:00 a.m.
Wednesday March 8	8:00 a.m.
Thursday March 9	8:00 a.m.
Friday March 10	8:00 a.m. & 6:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross, Choir Members
Saturday March 11	4:00 p.m. + Richard Guillory requested by Freda Guillory

(N.B. You can request Mass to be offered for you/ your loves one, or the deceased.. Speak with the Pastor or call the office to schedule).

PRAY FOR THE SICK	
James Arceneaux	
Mary Feathers	
Alberta Fontenot	
Frances Freeman	
Debra Glaude	
Margaret Green	
Myrtle Guillory	
Marvin Hampton	
Celestine Johnson	
Calvin Johnson	
Stacy Johnson	
Rose Lee Johnson	
Lakeisha Guidry-Jones	
Leothus Jones	
Raffelitta Jonea Lee	
John Milton	
Ruby Milton	
Mr. & Mrs. Mace	
Bettye Odom	
Clayona Pillette	
Robert Simmons	

<u>Attendance</u>	
Saturday	45
Sunday	97

<u>Weekend Collection</u>		
	<u>Deductible</u>	<u>Non-Deductible</u>
Mail In	\$ 60.00	
Loose money	\$ 154.15	
Mass Stipends		
Saturday	\$ 427.00	
Sunday	\$ 2,368.00	
<b>Total Deposit</b>	<b>\$ 3,009.15</b>	

**Bishop Faith Appeal**

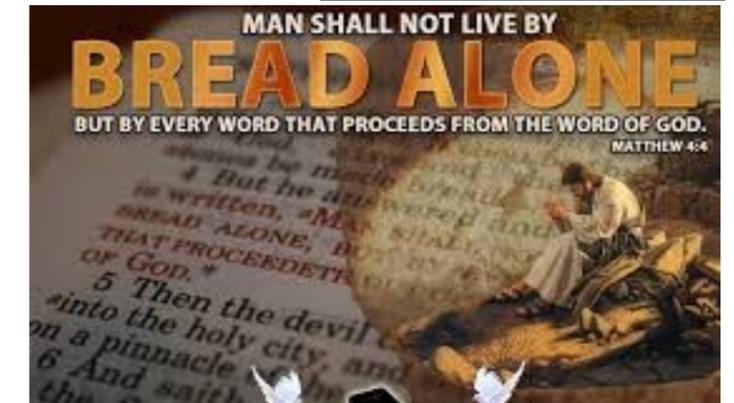
**Goal : \$18,987.**

*Thank you ALL for your generous support and contributions, we look forward to the continued growth of our Parish*

## 1st Sunday of Lent

March 5, 2017

**“One does not live on bread alone”**



### Eucharistic Celebration

#### Weekends:

Saturday Vigil: 4:00 p.m.  
Sunday: 9:00 a.m.

#### Reconciliation

Saturdays: 3:20 p.m. 3:55 p.m.

#### Infant Baptism:

Please contact the pastor two (2) months in advance

#### Weekdays:

Tuesday-Friday 8:00 a.m.  
Thursday: Faith Program 5:30 p.m.

#### Adoration & Benediction

1st Friday each month 6p.m.-7p.m.

#### Marriage:

Please call Rectory six (6) months prior to proposed date

#### SECRETARY

Cindy Hampton

(409) 882-0935

#### PARISH COUNCIL

Joe Ware, Chairman	886-5331
Adam Jacobs, Vice Chairman	883-9688
Dayna Smith, Secretary	988-6705
P.R.O., Leo Jackson	886-9692
Horace Broussard	883-7937
Shirley Ray	779-9922
Martin Feathers	882-4186
Albert Hebert, Jr.	746-2627
Freda Guillory	882-1768
Lanny DeLarue	330-0791
John King	920-2448

#### DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Sanja Popillion (409) 670-0808

#### FINANCE COUNCIL

Andre Robertson	882-0012
Janice Semien	883-7126
Tina Kindle	238-4447
Robert Gobert	

# FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

## Temptations

Adam and Eve couldn't resist the seduction of the serpent. They were tested and they failed. On the other hand, despite three appealing circumstances (food for the hungry, sensationalism, and power), Jesus resisted Satan's tempting challenges. Paul, in his letter to the Romans, contrasts for us the differences in these two situations. One human's disobedience brought about sin and death. Another human's obedience freed us from sin and death. We are blessed, even in our human condition, with the gift of salvation.

*FIRST READING: Genesis 2:7-9; 3:1-7    RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Psalm 51:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 17*  
*SECOND READING: Romans 5:12-19 [12, 17-19]    GOSPEL: Matthew 4:1-11*

## Comment

The serpent is clearly used to awaken Eve's desire to eat. Neither she nor Adam could resist tasting the fruit of the forbidden tree. Their disobedience to God's command is considered to be the original source of sin in humankind.

The "Big Guy" came out for Jesus. It was Satan, not just any evil creature, who presented Jesus with three tests. First of all, Jesus had to have been starving. He hadn't eaten for forty days, so the temptation of food probably seemed like a sure bet to Satan. But Jesus resisted. "Okay, if you're not hungry, let's try something spectacular. Throw yourself from the temple roof and show everyone how God will save you." Again, Jesus refused. If all else fails, go for greed. Offer Jesus all the power and wealth of the world. When Jesus obeyed God for the third time, Satan could do no more. He left Jesus.

Paul parallels these two events. In both instances, evil forces try coaxing and tricking the people involved to eat something. Adam and Eve are hungry to become like God. Jesus is coming off a forty-day fast. Adam and Eve get duped. They fall for the con. Jesus doesn't submit. He chooses not to use his power and in his humility sends Satan packing.

A contrast in the human condition is clear between the first reading and the Gospel. Adam initiates sin with disobedience. A certain gloom and darkness permeate the world after the fall of Adam and Eve. God is no longer directly accessible to people, and they fall into sinful ways without God. In the era of the New Adam, a transformation occurs. There is salvation through Christ. Jesus saves us from sin because he obeyed. He brings us new life; once again we have a direct connection with God.

## Reflection

Why was Jesus out in the wilderness starving himself in the first place? God's plan had been made clear to Jesus. He knew what it was he had to do. He knew it would not be easy. Jesus needed time to prepare for the difficult task that lay ahead, and to do this, he needed some quiet time with God to pray, to listen, and to plan.

When Jesus finished, Satan was waiting for him. Satan, like the serpent with Adam and Eve, made it sound like no big deal. "If you're the son of God, just do it." And the serpent, "Just take a little bite; everybody's doing it." Two thousand years later, we're still being tempted to just do it because everyone else is. We lower our standards, the standards Jesus showed us, for ourselves, our children, our loved ones. Why? For all kinds of reasons. We live in a time when instant gratification and personal pleasure are not only acceptable but expected. If we have the resources, there are few things we say "no" to. If we have enough money we buy it (sometimes we buy it anyway); if we have the figure, we wear it (sometimes we wear it anyway); if we have the energy we do it (sometimes we do it anyway).

We can only serve one God. Jesus knew this and Adam and Eve found out. Do other masters call us?

### \*\*\*Black History Program\*\*\*

**Thank You,** to all who contributed their unique talents for the Black History program last weekend. Whatever the part, big or small, it could not have been done without each and everyone of you. To **ALL** the youth of the parish thank you for your enthusiasm, commitment and willingness to do what is ask for the spiritual growth of our parish Coordinator, Felicia Richard

### \*\*\*Prayer for our Youth\*\*\* Youth 2000 Retreat

St. Anne Catholic Church  
Friday, March 3, 2017 7:00 PM thru  
Sunday, March 5, 2017 11:00 AM

We pray for the youth and young adults, that they are blessed with knowledge, courage and a willing heart to be the disciples. Bless them with happiness, friendship, love, laughter, peace, hope, faith, achievement and direction. blessing for their chaperon and coordinator **Mrs. Felicia Richard**

### \*\*\*Youth Meeting\*\*\*

Date: Wed, March 08, 2017  
Time: 6:00 p.m.  
Where: Life Center

**ALL** Youth Team members parents, youth, coordinators, youth lectors and youth ushers are ask to attend this meeting with Beaumont Diocese Youth Director Robert Barbry

## What are you doing for Lent?

1. **Give up Sin:** Show your love for God by keeping his commandments. Turn away from sins.
2. **Fast:** An empty stomach can lead to more attentive prayer. Give the money you saved on food to others in alms.
3. **Pray:** Be in constant prayer. Pray for your family and friends. For those who suffer, and for the Church and the world.
4. **Do good works:** Help those in need. Pray for them and be ready to serve them in their time of need.
5. **Give alms:** Help the poor and support the good works of the Church. Give cheerfully to God who has given us everything we have.
6. **Abstain:** Give up meat or other desirable foods during Lent, especially on Friday, the day of Christ's saving death on the cross.
7. **Do meditative reading:** Nourish your faith by spending time in quiet reading and reflection. Prayerful reading of God's Word each day will open your heart to the Spirit, and let God's thoughts and ways influence yours.
8. **Control desire for possessions:** Build up treasures in heaven rather than on earth. Cut down on material possessions, eliminate frills, lessen wants, share yourself -your time and your talents- with others.
9. **Control desire for entertainment:** Too much entertainment and other distractions can lead to less or no time for the works of the Lord.
10. **Carry out duties in life:** Serve God by living out your vocation in love each day. God is calling each of us to be a living sacrifice. Offer your daily life through Christ!

## TAKE A LOT OF BEER DURING LENT:

The parish priest of St. Patrick's Church in Bangalore in India gave a simple advice on what to do during 40days of Lent. He said we should take lots of **BEER**.

Now do not let your hearts go wondering. This means:

**B-Bible-** Read your bible. This is God's given time to be spiritually enriched with the Word of God.

**E-Empathy-** Feel empathy for the poor and neglected and do something about it.

**E-Eucharist-** Go for Mass frequently besides Sunday's, if possible every day.

**R-Reconciliation-** This is the best time to reconcile with those we have hurt, not talking to. Seek forgiveness. Restore our relationship with God and one another.

### Annual Lenten Fish Dinner Fundraiser

Fish 2-pieces	Red Rice
Potato Salad	Green Beans
Desert/Cake	Slice Bread

Time 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.  
Cost: \$8.00

Every Friday through April 7, 2017 we will selling fish dinners during the Lenten session. We are asking for volunteers with serving and delivering dinners. Food and monetary donations are needed for the above items. To better service you please call in large orders at (409) 883-3783. Thanks in advance.

### \*\*\*Town Hall Meeting\*\*\*

Date: Wednesday, March 22, 2017  
Time: 6:00 p.m.  
Where: St. Therese Life Center

Fr. Donatus and the Parish Council has scheduled a Town Hall meeting to discuss how all of us working together can enhance and encourage the growth of our parish. If anyone has any ideas, issues and/or concerns we are asking that you please make arrangements to be in attendance.

### Diocese of Beaumont Office of Family Life Ministry

The Office of Family Life ministry is hosting a Retreat weekend for married couples, March 24-26, 2017 at the Holiday Inn Beaumont Plaza on Walden Rd. Cost is \$100. Per couple this fee includes room, board and materials. Register immediately for space is limited, for more information please contact Sandra Hall at (409) 924-4325 or shall@dioceseofbmt.org or Jerome Cabeen at (409) 924-4390 or jcabeen@dioceseofbmt.org

### NOVENA PRAYER TO ST. THERESE—THE LITTLE FLOWER

St. Therese, beloved friend, you promised to spend your time in heaven doing good upon the earth. WE come before you in our need. We believe that you listen to us and approach God for and with us. You are love in the heart of the God. Please accept these petitions, hopes, needs and dreams that I list below (pause). Please present them to our loving Father so that God may do what is best for us, for our loved ones, and for the fulfillment of God's Kingdom. Continue your shower of roses in our lives. We ask you, dear friend with the bold confidence and loving care. We make this prayerful petition in the name of Jesus and through the power of his Spirit. **AMEN.**