

St. Therese Catholic Church

1409 6th Street 77630

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Pastoral Team:

Rev. Donatus Mgbajuo, 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.



3rd Sunday in Lent

March 19, 2017

“I am ‘the Messiah’, the one speaking with you”

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
John King 920-2448
Albert Hebert, Jr. 746-2627
Freda Guillory 882-1768
Lanny DeLarue 330-0791

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

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday
March 19 Ex 17:3-7 Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9 Rom 5:1-2, 5-8 Jn 4:5-42 or 4:5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42

Monday
March 20 2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16 Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22 Ps 89: 2-3, 4-5, 27 & 29 Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a

Tuesday
March 21 Dan 3:25, 34-43 Ps 25:4-5ab, 6 & 7bc, 8-9 Mt 18:21-35 or Ex 17:1-7 **Ps 95:1-2, 6-7ab, 7c-9 Jn 4:5-42**

Wednesday
March 22 Dt 4:1, 5-9 Ps 147:12-13, 15-16, 19-20 My 5:17-19 or **(same as in bold above)**

Thursday
March 23 Jer 7:23-28 Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9 Lk 11:14-23 or **(same as in bold above)**

Friday
March 24 Hos 14:2-10 Ps 81:6c-8a, 8bc-9, 10-11ab, 14 & 17 Mk 12:28-34 or **(same as in bold above)**

Saturday
March 25 Is 7:10-14; 8:10 Heb 10:4-10 Ps 40:7-8a, 8b-9, 10, 11 Lk 1:26-38

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 G. Thibodeaux
Alma C. Thibodeaux
Sammie Williams

March Birthday List Happy Birthday to::

Clinton Giron 1
Calvin Johnson 3
Yvette Spearman 5
Adam Jacobs 8
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 serve 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 your needs.

MINISTERIES FOR THE WEEKEND HOSPITALITY

Saturday: Rose Davis, Walter Davis, Richard Scott & Shirley Allison
Sunday: Jo'Nire Pete, T'Ana Williams, Candace Brown & Alexandre Gamble

ANNOUNCER & LECTORS:

Saturday: A: Felicia Richard L: Phyllis Thibodeaux & Gary Mims
Sunday: A: Hannah Allison L: Reagan Pitre & William Pitre

ALTAR SERVER:

Saturday: Reagan Pitre & William Pitre
Sunday: D'Ana Williams

MINISTERS OF COMMUNION:

Saturday Emma Nelson & Rose Bottley
Sunday Mr. & Mrs. Adam Jacobs

Stations of the Cross

Date: Mar 24, 2017
Time: 6:00 p.m.
Ministry: Lector's

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. + Josephine Payne requested by her family

Wednesday
March 8 8:00 a.m... Josephine Payne requested by her family

Thursday
March 9 8:00 a.m. + Josephine Payne requested by her family

Friday
March 10 8:00 a.m. + Josephine Payne requested by her family

Saturday
March 11 4:00 p.m. + Josephine Payne requested by her family

(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 Pilette
Robert Simmons

Bishop Faith Appeal

Goal : \$25,000. Pledged: \$1,025.

Paid: \$1,025.

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

Attendance

Saturday 47 Sunday 52

Weekend Collection

Deductible Non-Deductible

Mail In \$ 87.00
Fish Fundraiser \$ 2,007.00
Mass Stipends \$ 5.00
Saturday \$ 788.00
Sunday \$ 1,603.85

Total Deposit \$ 4,490.85

Property Ins & administrative cost <\$2686.00>
Liturgy materials & reimbursements <\$1,153.00>

Total Expenses <\$ 3,839.>

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

Water

For a desert people, a green, well-watered place is heaven on earth. It is no wonder that God chose a garden for Adam and Eve. In the desert, we search for an oasis. For all the severe beauty of the desert, it is water that we need. Today, we return to the waters of life, the waters of baptism.

FIRST READING: Exodus 17:3-7 RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Psalm 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9
SECOND READING: Romans 5:1-2, 5-8 GOSPEL: John 4:5-42 [5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42]

Comment

It wasn't a desert the chosen people were looking for. They were looking for freedom. They were looking for a future and an identity as God's own people. And in the first reading today, their concerns are very close to home indeed. They are simply looking for water.

They lacked this absolutely vital resource. And they lacked trust in God. So tangible was their anger, so clear their litany of complaint, that Moses feared for his own life. But God was patient, and water flowed from stone. The hardest hearts melted also. One can imagine relief spreading among the people as glistening, cold water flowed in that impenetrable, alien desert. This was the Lord's doing.

We meet Jesus in another desert place. His need for water was acute. After an arduous journey, Jesus stopped at the very place where Israel's great patriarch, Jacob, once set up camp centuries earlier. Water still rose up here and slaked the thirst of the people. Unfortunately this sacred place was in Samaria. The running feud with the Samaritans is well-known. They are the offspring of those Jews who remained in Israel during the exile and intermarried with non-Jews. Their "tainted" religion was a constant reminder of their betrayal. Samaria lay between the northern area of Galilee and the southern region of Judea. To circumnavigate Samaria meant a three-day journey. This forced detour added insult to injury. There was no love lost on Samaritans.

Nonetheless, in today's Gospel, Jesus risks the short passage through Samaria. He speaks in public to a woman — and, more surprising for his time, a Samaritan woman of questionable moral character.

The story begins with Jesus' simple thirst for water and ends up with the woman's thirst for the living waters that only he can give. As they talk, the truth flows forth. The age-old dispute about worship on Mount Gerizim or Mount Zion (Jerusalem) pales. The old questions are moot. The old enmities are transcended. The true thirst of all humankind is identified. Spiritual thirst is at issue, and it is quenched by the source of living waters—Jesus himself.

The astounded woman leaves Jesus there at the well. In her haste, she leaves her water jar, too. She has news! However, she is shy and tentative: "Could this not be the Messiah?" At their urgent request, Jesus stays with the Samaritans for a few days. They come to see for themselves that Jesus is the Savior of the whole world—of Israel and Judea. He is Savior even of lowly Samaria.

Reflection

Perhaps someone once sponsored us and asked for the gift of faith for us when we were infants. Perhaps those of us who are cradle Catholics forget the generosity of God's gift. Paul reminds us that faith is simply given. There is nothing earned or deserved. Grace, God's life, is amazing. It is more amazing than water, which is the metaphor here. Too often we take for granted God's life in us, or our life in God. We take it for granted the way we take water for granted when we live in a well-watered land.

During this Lent we may just be noodling along, but the intense and searching faith of others can move us. Sunday by Sunday we are called to pray for and with those who thirst for baptism. These catechumens—these searchers—wake us up. Their witness calls us to change from our stony little impervious ways and come again to the living waters.

Fundraiser Event

The youth of St. Therese have an interest in participating in a Youth Conference in Houston, Texas scheduled June 14th – 17th. In order to attend we, the youth, will be hosting a fundraiser event scheduled for Saturday, April 8th from 1:00pm – 6:00 pm and Sunday, April 9th immediately after church. Menu will consist of pork steak, red beans & rice, cornbread and cake for \$10.00...All proceeds will assist with travel, hotel fees and registration. If you should have any questions, please contact one of the following:

Felicia Richard @ 988-8058
Taura Ware @ 670-6814
Sanja Popillion @ 313-1536

Thanking all in advance for purchases and/or donations
St. Therese Youth Group

Women's ACTS Retreat

Women's ACTS Retreat Registration begins at 9:00 a.m. Monday, March 20th for the next St. Francis Women's ACTS Retreat. The retreat will be held May 18th-21st, 2017. The fee is \$170.00. To register, complete a registration form and turn in along with your deposit of \$50.00. Financial difficulties should not prevent anyone from attending the retreat. Registration forms can be found in the parish office. Please call Cecilia Gower at (409) 988-4287 if you have any questions. I can also be reached by email at may2017acts@gmail.com.

Workshop

Date: Saturday, March 25, 2017
Time: 10 am to 12:30 pm
Where: Sacred heart/St Mary
920 Booker T Washington Ave Port Arthur TX

Music in Divine Worship workshop don't miss this workshop if your ministry is leading music in your parish. Presenter Rosalind Sanchez ALL registrations must be made through the Office of Worship .

Lector's Meeting

Date: Thursday, March 23, 2017
Time: 6:00 pm
Where: Education Building

Fr. Donatus and Gary Mims is asking that All lectors to please be in attendance. If you can't attend please contact Gary Mims or Fr. Donatus

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.**

*** Penance Service***

Date: Tuesday, April 4, 2017
Time: 6:30 pm
Where: St. Mary's Catholic Church
912 W. Cherry St. Orange, TX

Everyone is invited to attend a penance service at St. Mary's Orange. There will be several local priest hearing confessions including Fr. Donatus.

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 be selling fish dinners during the Lenten season. 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

Just a reminder to everyone, Please make arrangements to be at the Life Center Wednesday, March 22, 2017 at 6:00 pm

ATTENTION

If anyone has any announcements to be placed in the Bulletin, upon the Pastor's approval please submit your information to the parish office by 12 noon each Wednesday.
THANK YOU