

MASS INTENTIONS
Mass at 75% capacity

Facebook LIVE! Sunday only*

Sunday, Dec. 13, 2020 9:00 am Mass
E'Retrious & E'Remious Gus
requested by **Cindy Hampton**

Monday Dec. 14th NO MASS

Tuesday Dec. 15th 9:00 am
Albert & Della Thomas
requested by **Cindy Hampton**
meditation and prayer
through our patron **St. Therese**

Wednesday, Dec. 16th, 9:00 a.m.
Mary Blackwell Griffith
requested by **Cindy Hampton**

Thursday, Dec. 17th, 9:00 a.m.
Sidney Gus requested by **Cindy Hampton**

Friday, Dec. 18th, 9:00 a.m.
Sidney Anthony Gus
requested by **Cindy Hampton**

Saturday, Dec. 19th, 4 p.m.
Reconciliation by appointment

(N.B. You can request Mass to be offered for you, your love ones, or any deceased or living person. Speak with the Pastor or call the office to schedule your mass intention).

COORDINATORS OF MINISTRIES

- Activities - Brushelle Scott
- BINGO** - Evangeline Platt
- Bishop Faith Appeal** - Adam Jacobs / Dorothy Jacobs
- Bereavement Committee** - Rose Bottley
- Donut Sunday's** - Freda Guillory
- Environmental** - Ina Chavis
- Extraordinary Minister of Communion** - Dorothy Broussard
- Finance** - Janice Semien
- Fund Raiser** - Walter Davis
- Hospitality/Ushers** - Horace Broussard
- Lectors** - Peggy Green
- Life Center** - Adam Jacobs
- Maintenance** - Joseph Ware Sr.
- Mission & Retreat** - Cecilia Davis
- Music Director** - Leo Jackson
- Pastoral Council** - Lester Popillion
meetings are held *every other* month.
- Religious Education** - Sanja Popillion
- Youth** - Felicia Richard
- Stewardship** - Gary Mims

December Birthday List
Happy Birthday to::

- Draven Platt 1
- Eva Platt 3
- Sanja Popillion 4
- Betty Odom 5
- Courtney Chavis 6
- Debra Henderson 11
- Lawrence DeLarue 12
- Jordan Richard 13
- Ashton Spearman 17
- Zederick Cezar 19
- Mary Rigsby 28
- Brushelle Scott 28
- Russell Bottley 29

Happy Anniversary

- Andre & Lanier Robertson 8th
- Richard & Brushelle Scott 8th
- Herman & Mona Richard 10th



Advent

MINISTERS SERVING IN DECEMBER

LECTORS ONLY

- Saturdays-1st reader/2nd reader
- Dec. 5th -
- Dec. 12th -
- Dec. 19th -
- Dec. 26th -
- Sundays-1st reader/2nd reader
- Dec. 6th -
- Dec. 13th -
- Dec. 20th -
- Dec. 27th -
- Jan. 3rd -

Attendance last Weekend
Saturday: Sunday: 26
Join us on **Facebook LIVE!**

Last Weekend Collection

- Missal/Lectors \$ 156.00
- Saturday \$ 152.00
- Sunday \$ 2,332.00

Total Deposit \$ 2,640.00

Expenses:

- Equipment contract** <\$ 50.60>
- Liturgy** <\$ 217.30>
- OSV - envelopes** <\$ 309.85>

READINGS FOR THIS WEEK

Sun. Dec. 13 - Is 61:1-2a, 10-11 (Ps)
Lk 1:46-48, 49-50, 53-54 1 Thes 5:16-24
Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

Mon. Dec. 14 - NM 24:2-7, 15-17A
PS 25:4-5AB, 6 & 7BC, 8-9 PS 85:8 MT
21:23-27

Tues. Dec. 15 - ZEP 3:1-2, 9-13
PS 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-18, 19 & 23 MT
21:28-32

Wed. Dec. 16 - IS 45:6C-8, 18, 21C-25
PS 85:9AB & 10, 11-12, 13-14 IS 40:9-10
LK 7:18B-23

Thurs. Dec. 17 - GN 49:2, 8-10
PS 72:1-2, 3-4AB, 7-8, 17 MT 1:1-17

Fri. Dec. 18 - JER 23:5-8 PS 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19 MT 1:18-25

Sat. Dec. 19 - JGS 13:2-7, 24-25A
PS 71:3-4A, 5-6AB, 16-17 LK 1:5-25

St. Therese Catholic Church

Established in 1924; Served by The Missionary Society of St. Paul from Nigeria since 2000

1409 6th Street 77630
Email: sttherese1350@yahoo.com

Phone: (409) 883-3783
Child Abuse Hotline: 1-800-252-5400

Fax: (409) 883-4918
Website: stthereseorantex.org



Pastoral Team:

Rev. Donatus Mgbeajuo, MSP

Email: donachrisneo@yahoo.com
Contact information: cell (409) 454-3958

Deacon Julian Richard (409) 221-2743

Office Hours
Tuesday thru Friday
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon
Lunch 12-1:00 pm



The 3rd Sunday of Advent - Year B
December 13, 2020

“I baptize with water; but there is one among you whom you do not recognize”

Eucharistic Celebration

Weekends:

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

Weekdays:

Tuesday-Friday 8:00 a.m.

Reconciliation

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

Exposition & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Every Tuesday: 5:30 p.m.

Adoration & Benediction

1st Tuesday each month 5:30 p.m.-6:30 p.m.

Infant Baptism:

Please contact the pastor two (2) months in advance

Marriage:

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

PARISH SECRETARY

Cindy Hampton (409) 882-0935

PARISH COUNCIL

- Lester Popillion, Chairman (409) 670-0808
- John Semien, Vice Chairman (409) 313-0594
- Mona Richard, Secretary (409) 779-1442
- Horace Broussard (409) 883-7937
- Ina Chavis (409) 779-4096
- Clifton Richard (409) 882-4739
- Peter Roberson (409) 221-1866
- Ralph Wilkes (409) 553-1451

MAINTENANCE & GROUNDS

Joseph Ware Sr. (409) 886-5331

DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Sonja Popillion (409) 670-0808

FINANCE COUNCIL

- Janice Semien (409) 883-7126
- Tina Kindle (409) 238-4447
- Sheila Arnold (409) 313-2062
- Andre' Robertson (409) 882-0012

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Recognition

Artists in the Middle Ages used to paint what seemed, at first glance, just ordinary scenes of daily life. Upon closer inspection, however, these paintings revealed a multitude of surprises. The observant eye could recognize any number of “secret” meanings and happenings in such pictures.

Today’s liturgy joyfully invites us to open our eyes to recognize a remarkable “secret,” the presence of the Messiah—but not simply the Messiah who came long ago or who is coming again long hence. Rather, we are invited to look deep into the ordinary lives we live and to the ordinary people with whom we live, there to recognize the “secret,” extraordinary presence of the One we call Messiah and Lord.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 61:1–2a, 10–11 RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Luke 1:46–48, 49–50, 53–54
SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 5:16–24 GOSPEL: John 1:6–8; 19–28

Comment

In a wonderful piece of literature that is paralleled by Mary’s *Magnificat*, Isaiah describes the coming of the one on whom God’s Spirit will rest. This Messiah will be good news for broken lives and hearts, liberty for the enslaved, and vindication for all who receive him. Isaiah is here delivering a message of absolute joy.

Saint Paul picks up Isaiah’s paean by declaring that joy, prayer, and thanks are to be the activities of those who await the Messiah’s coming. Setting about these activities opens us to the movement of the Spirit among us and enables us to discern its import and meaning for our lives.

The Gospel has John the Baptizer playing a game of “guess who?” The Baptizer’s questioners do not recognize him; thus, neither do they recognize the Messiah who is already in their midst. So John wastes no time in telling them that and in urging them to open their eyes, lest they miss out on true and lasting joy.

Reflection

Once upon a time there was a monastery in which all the monks were either sad or grumpy. At the far corner of the monastery grounds sat a dilapidated hut that was visited now and again by an old hermit. None of the monks ever spoke to the old hermit, but whenever he was in the hut, the monks seemed happier and treated one another with more kindness.

One day, the abbot invited the hermit to come to the monastery proper. All the monks assembled, and when the hermit arrived, he embraced each one. The old hermit spoke no words. Neither did any of the monks. Then, after a long while, the hermit began to weep—softly at first, then louder. Soon, all the monks were weeping as well.

At last, the hermit spoke. “My brothers,” he said, “you are not happy serving God. You want my advice, but I have none. However, I do have a secret that I can share with you. Listen carefully, because once I tell it to you, no one must speak it aloud ever again.”

The monks bent forward to listen. Every ear was at attention. The old hermit’s face glowed as he whispered, “The Messiah is among you.” With that, the hermit turned, left the monastery, and was never seen again.

At first, the monks were deeply troubled by the hermit’s message. As time went by, however, a gradual change came over the monastery. Every monk began to treat every other monk as if he were very, very special. The monks acted as if they had found a precious treasure buried in one another’s hearts. The change in the monastery was so great that people from far and wide soon came to visit. When they left, they left changed by the monks’ prayer and praise. The monks were sharing the hermit’s secret—not by telling it aloud, but by *living* it aloud.

We know the hermit’s secret. It is our joy to pass it on, not by telling it aloud, but by living it aloud. Advent is the special time that helps us get ready to celebrate the joy of the Messiah who is present among us. But, *shhhh!* It’s a secret. Pass it on!

PRAY FOR THE HOMEBOUND

Mary Alexander	Beatrice Guillory	Mark Mitchell Jr.
Mary Brown	Hollis Fain	James Mims
Courtney Chavis	Ella Mae Garrett	Westley Papillion
Florence Craig	Mary Gray	Mormon Richard
David J. Carey	Alma C Thibodeaux	
	Deacon Julian Richard	



PRAY FOR THE SICK

Jalen A. Chambers	Ruby Milton
Carroll Durio	Clayona Pillette
Mable Durio	Andre Platt
Margaret Green	John Richard Sr.
Mrs. Doris Hayes	Gerald Richard
Roy Hayes	Claudine Riggs
Ronald Hebert	Sammie Ware
Lucy Mitchell	Tiffany Winphrey

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 God. Please accept these petitions, hopes, needs and dreams that I have (pause for your petitions).

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 petitions in the name of Jesus and through the power of his Spirit. **AMEN.**

Prayers for Joy on the Third Sunday of Advent

A Personal Prayer for Joy
[Psalm 51:12](#) says, “Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with a willing spirit.”

Lord, would you restore the joy of our salvation? Help us to be willing to follow you with all we have. As we read the Scriptures that remind us who you are and the ways you love us, ignite in us a sense of joy that overflows out of our hearts! Let this holy joy be contagious and spill over onto the lives of those around us. May your peace that surpasses all understanding be upon us...especially as we're wrapping up a year that has felt very scary and uncertain. Encourage our hearts with the knowledge that with *you* we can live in your perfect peace, no matter our circumstances. We thank you for the joy and peace you give! Amen.

Attention Everyone

The Holiday season is upon us and the Church is asking for those of you who want to donate live poinsettias, please bring them to the parish office on **Wednesday, December 23rd**, or if you are available to help get the Church ready for Christmas, meet us at the Church **Thursday, December 24th at 10 am**, bring your poinsettias and your helping hands. Thanks in advance.

Attention Everyone



Although we do not physically meet on Tuesday's for Exposition & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, be encouraged to privately meditate and pray through our patron St. Therese

ATTENTION Job Seekers

St. Therese is seeking a Parish Director of Youth Ministry, must be a practicing Catholic with Theology, Religious Education, or related educational field and or certificate in ministry or theology or one to three years related experience in education of youth. Under the direct supervision of the Pastor and in accordance with established policies and procedures, is responsible for the development, coordination, supervision, and execution of parish programs designed to engage and educate the youth of the parish. Will act as an advocate and link for youth and their families to the pastoral team, the parish family, and the surrounding community. Please send your resume to the St. Therese Catholic Church 1409 N. 6th Street, Orange, TX77630 or email at sttherese1350@yahoo.com. For more information please call the Parish Office 409-883-3783.