

WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

Mass at 50% capacity

Sunday's Facebook LIVE!

Sunday, Feb. 21, 2020 9:00 am Mass

Monday Feb. 22nd NO MASS

Tuesday Feb. 23rd 9:00 am confessions 4 pm - 5pm

Wednesday, Feb. 24th, 9:00 a.m.

Thursday, Feb. 25th, 9:00 a.m.

Friday, Feb. 26th, 9:00 a.m. Stations 6 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 27th, 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).

February Birthday List
Happy Birthday to:

Diane Hebert	1
Albert Thibodeaux	1
Ryland Blackwell	3
Santina Robertson	5
Stacy Johnson	5
Richella Rhodes	5
Gerald Richard	6
Jada Semien	9
Ralph Wilkes	11
Athena Jefferson	13
Italia Green	14
Curtis Berry	18
Leo Jackson	18
Richard Scott	20
Ry' Asian Daughtery	22
Ariel Anderson	27

Happy Anniversary

Albert & Phyllis Thibodeaux 6th

COORDINATORS OF MINISTRIES

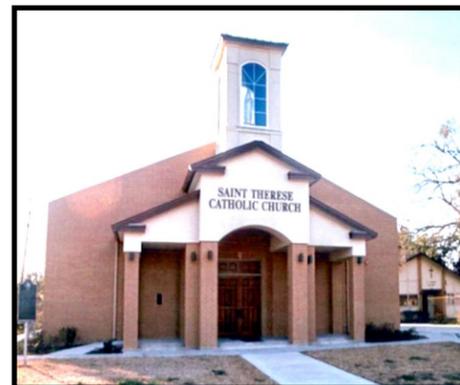
- Activities * Brushelle Scott
- BINGO * Evangeline Platt
- Bishop Faith Appeal * Adam Jacobs & Dorothy Jacobs
- Bereavement Committee * Rose Bottley
- Donut Sunday's * Freda Guillory
- Environmental * Ina Chavis
- Extraordinary Minister of Communion * Dorothy Broussard
- Custodian * Veronica Warren
- Finance * Janice Semien
- Fund Raiser * Walter Davis
- Hospitality * 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
- D.R.E * Sanja Popillion
- Youth * Felicia Richard
- Stewardship * Gary Mims

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



Pastor: Rev. Dr. Donatus Mgbeajuo, MSP

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

Office Hours
Tuesday thru Friday
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon
Lunch 12-1:00 pm
1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.



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

DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Sonja Popillion (409) 670-0808

MAINTENANCE & GROUNDS

Joseph Ware Sr. (409) 886-5331

CUSTODIAN & HOUSEKEEPER

Veronica Warren (409) 238-1427

FINANCE COUNCIL

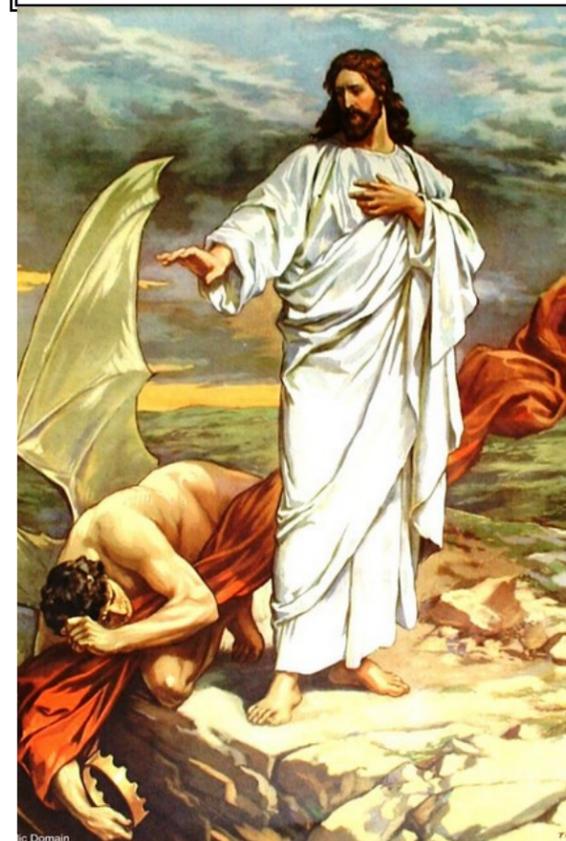
Janice Semien (409) 883-7126

Sheila Arnold (409) 313-2062

Tina Kindle (409) 238-4447

Andre' Robertson (409) 882-0012

The First Sunday of Lent- Year B
February 21, 2021
"Jesus was tempted by Satan"



Eucharistic Celebration

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

Weekdays:
Tuesday-Friday
9:00 a.m.

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

Adoration & Benediction
1st Tuesday of each month
5:30 p.m.—6:30 p.m.

Exposition & Adoration Of the Blessed Sacrament
every Tuesday at 5:30 p.m.

Infant Baptism:
Please contact the Pastor
two months prior to
desired date of
baptism

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

LECTORS SERVING IN FEBRUARY

Saturday's/ one reader
Feb. 27th - Veronica Warren

Sunday's/one reader
Feb. 27th - Youth

THE SUGGESTION BOX

At the rear of the Church there is a suggestion box for your comments, questions, and requests to enhance our Parish buildings or grounds.

- There were two suggestions the same to pay down the debt owed to the Diocese of Beaumont.

Income & Expenses for last week

Attendance	
Sat: 8	Sun: 17
Collection	
Fr's mileage	\$ 607.60
Missal	\$ 5.00
Saturday	\$ 880.00
Sunday	\$ 1,173.00

Total Deposit \$ 2,665.60

Expenses paid out

Admin phone <\$ 94.19>

Bishop Faith Appeal Goal : 17,049.

While we are facing challenging times, keeping safe and preventing the spread of the coronavirus. God challenges us to share what we have with others, to make a commit to serving God's people. Romans 8:28 say's "For those who love God, all things work together for the good." Make your pledge to the BFA is one of the ways we are all called together, one parish, supporting others with what we have. Thank you for your support.

Chairpersons, Adam & Dorothy Jacobs and Fr. Donatus.

We are encouraged this Lenten season to have BEER

Bible - read the word of God

Empathy - have compassion for one another

Eucharist - give him your life

Reconciliation - reconcile ourselves to God

READINGS FOR THIS WEEK

Sun. Feb. 21 - Gn 9:8-15 Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 1 Pt 3:18-22 Mt 4:4b Mk 1:12-15

Mon. Feb. 22 - 1 Pt 5:1-4 Ps 23:1-3a, 4, 5, 6 Mt 16:18 Mt 16:13-19

Tues. Feb. 23 - Is 55:10-11 Ps 34:4-5, 6-7, 16-17, 18-19 Mt 4:4b Mt 6:7-15

Wed. Feb. 24 - Jon 3:1-10 Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19 Jl 2:12-13 Lk 11:29-32

Thurs. Feb. 25 - Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25 Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 7c-8 Ps 51:12a, 14a Mt 7:7-12

Fri. Feb. 26 - Ez 18:21-28 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-7a, 7bc-8 Ez 18:31 Mt 5:20-26

Sat. Feb. 27 - Dt 26:16-19 Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8 2 Cor 6:2b Mt 5:43-48

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

For a Change

We are reminded today that the trouble has passed. The flood waters have receded and new plants are growing. A rainbow spans the sky and connects heaven and the cleansed and renewed earth. God is present in covenant and promise. This knowledge can hold us fast and set us moving all at once. This is the beginning of Lent. It helps a lot to see the end or purpose of Lent, and this Sunday gives us the boost we need.

FIRST READING: Genesis 9:8-15 RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Psalm 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9

SECOND READING: 1 Peter 3:18-22 GOSPEL: Mark 1:12-15

Comment

The opening reading from Genesis is surely among the most often told and well-loved. But, for all its charm and easy adaptation for children, the story of Noah carries deep meanings for mature people of faith. This reading tells the story of God's first covenant with the chosen people. The covenant comes as something of a surprise. It is not just a small arrangement between God and Noah's little family. This covenant is explicit, unilateral, and universal. What a great new beginning! This covenant, unbidden and unexpected, is made with Noah after the known world had drowned itself in its own willfulness and sinfulness.

Noah, a just and good man, escaped with his family and a pair of each living creature. Rarely must one begin all over again, but this seems to be the lot of Noah—and of God, too. The reseeded world is the story of a second chance given by a patient God to a faithful man and his family, and alas, his menagerie. The ark floating on the water is a miniature, saved world. Everything that is needed is present.

The first letter of Peter, which is our second reading this Sunday, refers to the story of Noah and uses it to illustrate a new understanding of water in salvation history. Noah's small and sufficient ark escaped "through the water." Peter sees this image of water not as a killing deluge, but as water that supports and sustains. The water to which Peter refers is the water of salvation, not of death.

The Gospel proclamation is so brief we almost miss it. Mark's Gospel assumes a world view that sees Jesus as the Savior, Son of God, and bearer of the Holy Spirit. This Spirit drives Jesus into the waterless desert, where he encounters and no doubt struggles with Satan. This struggle is a cameo of his entire mission of struggling with and finally overcoming the power of evil. For forty days, that is, for a sufficient time, Jesus takes on and subdues the power of evil.

Jesus then emerges, almost explodes, into the unsuspecting and relatively tranquil world of Palestine. He comes among a people going about their daily business and announces a time of fulfillment. A fresh, new day is upon us, he announces. God is here and seeks our repentance and our faith.

Reflection

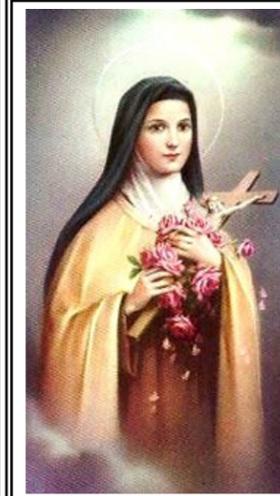
Jesus tells the people of his homeland that the reign of God is at hand. That is the main issue. He doesn't first remind them of their destructive ways. Jesus is definitely not the hell-and-brimstone preacher the self-righteous seem to think most of us deserve to hear. Jesus does not spend his time bawling us out, as it were. Rather, he first sets before us promise and fullness, and only then does he ask us to take it in and take on the work of conversion.

The reign of God is at hand, and we need only to open our hands to seize it. Our hands cannot be shaped to fists, and though a kind of dying must occur, we need not face it with white-knuckle determination, as if everything depended on us. We begin well when we focus on what is to be gained, not on what is to be given up. Only by focusing on the end of the lenten journey—Easter—will we be able to muster the courage and persistence needed for renunciation and repentance. All of the readings insist on this: God's promise to Noah and to the whole earth; Peter's reminder that we are saved through the baptismal waters; and finally, Jesus' announcement of the reign of God among us.

Remembering Black History Month

PRAY FOR THE SHUT-IN

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



"My mission - to make God loved - will begin after my death," she said. "I will spend my heaven doing good on earth. I will let fall a shower of roses." Roses have been described and experienced as Saint Therese's signature. Countless millions have been touched by her intercession and imitate her "little way." She has been acclaimed "the greatest saint of modern times." In 1997, Pope John Paul II declared St. Therese a Doctor of the Church - the only Doctor of his pontificate - in tribute to the powerful way her spirituality has influenced people all over the world.

PRAY FOR THE SICK

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



Saint Philip the Evangelist, also called Philip The Deacon, (born 1st century; feast day June 6), in the early Christian

church, one of the seven deacons appointed to tend the Christians of Jerusalem, thereby enabling the Apostles to freely conduct their missions. His energetic preaching, however, earned him the title of Philip the Evangelist and led him to minister successfully in Samaria, in Palestine, where he converted, among others, the famous magician Simon Magus (Acts 8:9-13).

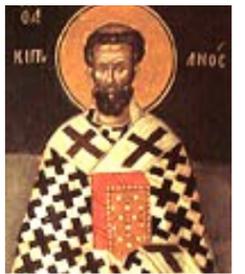
Later, on the road from Jerusalem to Gaza, he instructed and baptized a court official from Ethiopia. Philip's missionary journey ended at Caesarea (Acts 8), where he raised his four daughters, reputed to be prophets, and where, about AD 58, he entertained the Apostle St. Paul and his companions on their last journey to Jerusalem (Acts 21:8). According to Greek tradition, he became bishop of Tralles (modern Aydin, Tur.).

St Philip the Deacon" is commemorated on October 11 in the Eastern Orthodox Church, in the Roman Rite, the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and in the Anglican communion including, for example, the U.S. Episcopal Church, and the Anglican Church of Southern Africa. Additionally, in the Eastern Orthodox Church, Philip is counted among the Seventy Apostles, and is referred to as a Protodeacon; this feast day is celebrated on January 4.

LENT 2021

- **CONFESSIONS** every Tuesday 4 pm - 5 pm or by appointment (409) 454-3958
- **VICARIATE CONFESSIONS** Tuesday, **March 16th, 4 - 5pm** all parishes in the eastern vicariate will have confessions simultaneously, St. Therese, St. Mary, St. Francis, St. Henry, Our Lady of Lourdes, St. Mauriceville, and St. Helens you may chose where you want your confession heard.
 - **ROSARY** at 7pm every evening by Conference Call dial-in# (712) 770-5384 Participant code: 750678, please everyone join us!
 - **STATIONS Friday's** beginning February 19th, at 6 pm, social distancing, temperature checks and hand sanitizing.

ST. CYPRIAN



St. Cyprian of Carthage is second in importance only to St. Augustine as a figure and Father of the African Church. He was born to wealthy pagans around the year 190, and was educated in the classics. Like St. Augustine after him, he questioned what truth was and searched for it in practicing law and rhetoric. He was curious about Christianity, and after much study he converted at the age of 56. He sold all of his property and was ordained a priest a year later, and bishop two years after that.

His writings are of great importance, especially his treatise on "The Unity of the Catholic Church," in which he argues that unity is grounded in the authority of the bishop, and among the bishops, in the primacy of the See of Rome. In it, he wrote, "You cannot have God for your Father if you do not have the Church for your mother.... God is one and Christ is one, and His Church is one; one is the faith, and one is the people cemented together by harmony into the strong unity of a body.... If we are the heirs of Christ, let us abide in the peace of Christ; if we are the sons of God, let us be lovers of peace."

He was martyred on Sept. 14, 258.