

St. Therese of Lisieux

Roman Catholic Parish

222 Third Avenue PO Box 435

Patagonia, AZ 85624

520-394-2954

sttheresa@dakotacom.net

<https://stccpatagonia.com/>

Our Lady of the Angels Mission

22 Los Encinos Road PO Box 1272

Sonoita, AZ 85637

sonoitacatholicchurch.com

The Ascension of the Lord

May 24, 2020

Fr. Alexander Tigga

Pastor

(520) 394-2954

Ramon G Miranda

Office manager

(520) 313-4813

Elvia Miranda

Religious Ed

(520) 394-2954

Sunday Mass Times

Saturday 5:30pm Vigil Patagonia

8:00am Sonoita

10:30am Patagonia

Daily Mass

Tuesday – 5:30pm

Wednesday – Friday 9:00am

Confessions

Saturday – 4:00pm to 4:30pm

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- **Sunday Online Mass 10:00am, live stream on Fr. Alex's facebook page. www.facebook.com/alex.tigga22**
- **Parish-based public gatherings are cancelled or suspended for an indefinite period of time, probably no earlier than June 1, 2020.**
- **Daily eucharistic celebration by Fr. Alex. Daily Mass intentions are for the needs of all the parishioners of St. Therese Parish & Our Lady of The Angels. Please email Ramon at sttheresa@dakotacom.net if you have a specific mass intention.**
- **St. Therese Parish continues to work internally and expenses continue to accumulate. The budget of our parish depends greatly on the generosity of all of you, parishioners. By not receiving parish offertory at Masses, our budget has suffered greatly. I kindly ask for your continued financial support to maintain the parish. May the Lord bless you always, Fr. Alexander Tigga.**
- **Our parish has been given an online contribution option through the Diocese of Tucson website (diocesetucson.org), there is a 2.5% transaction fee to use this service. If you do not wish to pay any transaction fee, you may also mail your contribution check to St. Therese Parish PO BOX 435, PATAGONIA, AZ 85624. Please write your envelope box #.**

***Ramon Miranda is available Monday-Friday 9:00am-2:00pm for any parish office matters. Cell phone #520-313-4813, or email sttheresa@dakotacom.net**

***Angel Wings Thrift shop is closed until further notice.**

***Religious Education Classes have been cancelled until further notice.**

***Bingo has been cancelled until further notice.**

Prayer Request

Paco Moreno	Bob Bilodeau	Don Witt
Ruben Mendoza	Dr. Jesse	Art Pena
Virginia Fain	Cruz Quiroga	Delfina Madrid
Paul Mihalik, Sr.	Sadie G.	Amelia Barrios
Lucy Mihalik	Joseph Hann	Harold Swyers
Pam D.	Waclaw Wolosik	Jeannette Swyers
Steve Biddle	Pelagia Wolosik	
Walter Wolosik	Bill Swyers	
Nancy Swyers	John Swyers	

MAY 2020	Patagonia	Sonoita	Total
Regular Offering	\$758.00	\$680.00	\$1,438.00
Goal			\$1,650.00
Over /Under Goal			\$
2nd Collection- Parish Priest Salary	\$610.00	\$115.00	\$725.00

Upcoming 2nd Collections:

May 24- Catholic Communications
May 31- Parish Priest Salary
June 7- Parish Priest Salary
June 14- Poor & Needy

Parish Office News

Dear Parishioners,

Please feel free to contact me with

any parish business as I am

working from my home office.

Mass Intentions

DAILY

MASS

INTENTION

FOR

ALL THE

MEMBERS OF
ST. THERESE & OUR LADY OF THE ANGELS
PARISH

Parish Home Office Hours:

Contact Ramon at
520-313-4813 or
sttheresa@dakotacom.net.
Monday-Friday
9:00am-2:00pm

Sacramental Life

Baptism: Contact Parish Office one month prior to the desired date
Confirmation: Contact Parish Office for information and schedule
Marriage: Contact the Parish Office at least 6 months prior to the desired date

SAINT THERESA OF LISIEUX

222 Third Ave.
P.O. Box 435
Patagonia, AZ 85624
Phone: 520-394-2954

E-Mail: sttheresa@dakotacom.net

05-19- 2020

Reopening of the Church:

Dear Parishioners,

May the peace and love of Christ be with you all. I hope all of you are doing well and making good use of this time of quarantine well especially to pray, reflect and in reading some good books and spending this time well and meaningfully.

The purpose of this letter to give you some information about reopening of our Church. I also request your prayers. As you are already aware plans to reopen Arizona is under it's way. As people begin to open their activities and businesses slowly and carefully it is natural for us to ask when are we going to start our Masses. The question will be approached differently by each parish differently according to the situation of the parish and the guidelines from the diocese.

St. Theresa parish also is working towards this goal to recommence our masses. We need to do it very carefully with lots of precautions, discussions and discernment. We need to show lots of care and concern to vulnerable and in following the guidelines given by the Diocese. It is to remind you that the **Sunday Obligation is suspended for everyone in the diocese** until further notice. So if anyone is not comfortable with public mass you can continue to view live stream Mass. For now we invite everyone continue viewing live stream mass. We are happy to know that May 24 is Feast of Ascension of the Lord. The Parish will live stream Mass at 10 am. The good news for us is that after the live stream I will be at the Church for anyone who desire to receive the Holy Communion at 11 am to 12 noon. This will also allow you to participate live stream or online Mass and come to receive the Lord. So those who want to receive the Lord please come at the given time.

As we plan to reopen our Church slowly and carefully in phases please continue viewing online Mass. Please view also our parish website for more information. I will also directly communicate with you. Please join me for live stream Mass on Facebook at 10 am.

God bless you abundantly.

Fr. Alex Tigga.

Dear Parishioners,

Greetings of peace and love of Christ to you all. I hope you are keeping fine and doing well as I do here. As we prepare ourselves to Re-open our church please read and be familiar with the guidelines and protocols we need to follow when we Re-open our church for the public Mass. Please read and be familiar with it. This is Pastor's statement with regard to safety protocol. I will send a copy of it to the Diocese and the Diocese will review it in order to give us the permission to re-open. I am sending it as attachment because the document is bit big. If any one of you have problem in opening it please let me know so that I can send it as simple e-mail. On May 24 Sunday, Feast of Ascension of the Lord We will continue to have Live Stream Mass. After the Live stream Mass those who want to receive Holy Communion please come and receive the Holy Communion outdoor at St. Theresa Parish between 11 am - 12 noon. I will be there to give the Eucharist. We are hoping to Re-open the church for public Mass for Pentecost Sunday. This all depends on the permission from the diocese. I hope we will get the permission by then. Stay healthy and be safe. God bless you.

With prayers and all the good wishes

Fr. Alexander Tigga MSFS

GUIDELINES FOR PARISH RE-OPENING AND SAFETY PROTOCOLS

Dear St. Theresa's Parishioner,

You may have already heard the news that the churches & missions of the Tucson Diocese will shortly begin the process of re-opening our churches for limited masses, including receiving the Eucharist. Please understand that this is a gradual re-opening of the church, each phase will be evaluated and we will go step by gradually in all the parishes in the Diocese. We know that the whole world is facing this problem. This problem is not ours' alone. Let us then co-operate with the world and join the world in this fight of preventing the spread of the Covid 19 and do on our part what we can do. Though we may be very eager to live up our faith and to practice it our primary concern at this moment should be of health and safety of our own and the others. Thus we need to take all the necessary precautions that is needed to take by following the guidelines given by the Diocese and the government.

We all need to play a part to assure safety of everyone. These are the guidelines for us as to how we are to go about as we re-open our church. Please read it carefully and be familiar with the guidelines to implement it strictly. These guidelines are prepared to keep safe all the parishioners who participate in the Mass. We should take a personal responsibility of our own safety and of the others.

As we go by there will be regular updates on our safety protocols and on our progress towards resumption of normal masses and schedules. Updates may be posted at Mass, sent via electronic channels email, parish web, Facebook, etc. or through the instructions or notices during the mass. We request you to share with others who might have missed it. The process of moving forward will be gradual, step by step. Please keep yourselves updated with regards to guidelines and instructions that are given by the parish and the Diocese.

When we begin we will have our normal 3 weekend regular masses. We are a small community number is not a big problem for us. We have enough space to accommodate the community. At this time of the year winter visitors have gone back to their place some people also may refrain from attending the public Masses so our number will be still less. On Saturday evening Vigil Mass we have really a very small crowd. So it is my advice to those parishioners who are 60+ and want to attend the Mass please opt for this Mass. Others too those who want to avoid the bigger crowd are encouraged to opt for this Mass as the number of participants in this Mass is very small.

Safe distancing measures be maintained during Mass:

There will be specific guidelines for each location to keep the safe distancing . Volunteer staff will be responsible for implementing our safety precautions and assisting parishioners. Sitting arrangements will be marked and indicated. You are requested to follow the signs and indications. We will follow the directions give by the Diocese and government entities. So to say all reasonable precautions will be taken for the safety of the parishioners.

The Points to Highlight and to remember:

- Please remember that **The Sunday Mass Obligation** is suspended indefinitely for all persons living in or visiting in the Tucson Diocese.
- Those in the **Vulnerable classification** (Age 65+ or with a chronic health condition) are strongly urged to stay home and not come onto Parish Property.
- Please remember that there is **inherent risk, regardless of age or health, in attending public event. This includes religious services. While we are working to reduce the**

risk, there are no risk free situations. A parishioner's presence at a public event constitutes his or her understanding and acceptance of this essential level of risk.

- Those who are **feeling ill in any way** are urged, in the strongest sense, to remain at home and not come onto parish property.
- Please respect any **sign posted at the church entrance indicating the church is full** and you need to return for later scheduled Mass.
- Please make use of a **mask**. The use of a face mask is a sign of our desire to do our part in helping to prevent others from potential contagion. As clergy are repeatedly in our churches, in the words of Bishop Weisenburger, the use of a mask is an especially strong sign of your support for your priests and ministers.
- **Taking of collection:**
- Collection will be taken either by dropping it in a basket on a pole held by an usher or by dropping it in a receptacle near the exit/entrance point. The method will depend on at Father's discretion. No baskets will be passed.

Distribution of Holy Communion:

For the initial phase, the Diocese is strongly recommending that Holy Communion be offered out-of-doors and following the final blessing and dismissal, as you are leaving. Discretion is however left up to Pastor as each church and situation is different and things may change rapidly. Please pay attention to Father's announcements before or during Mass as to the current method. However it is received, we all should remember that we are receiving our Lord into our bodies and that we try to observe the same reverence for the sacrament, as best as we can under the circumstances.

In this early phase, the Holy communion will be given **only in the hand** and Parishioners are requested to hold their hands in a form of cup so that Holy communion can be gently dropped into the cupped hands without having any contact with the recipient. Please pay attention to instruction given by the father how to receive Holy communion during the Mass.

Use of Leaflets and Hymnals:

Parish will not provide any leaflets, prayer cards or hymnals during this time. The congregational singing is suspended. Changes with regard to this will be informed.

Cleaning of the Church before the Mass:

If the Mass is held in the church, every surface exposed to common use is cleaned and disinfected before the Mass. This is done before every Mass or public service of any kind. There will be no weekday masses. The church will be thoroughly cleaned. Church will be entirely closed on Monday through Friday to allow any potential contagion left behind on a surface to die.

All public use missals, hymnals, prayer cards, etc. will be removed. The fonts will also remain unfilled at this time.

Other safety measures and precautions:

Eucharistic ministers, ushers, set-up and clean up volunteers will all wear masks and will be instructed with regard to safety measures. According to Diocese guidelines Eucharistic ministers will not be wearing gloves and will be dropping the Host into the recipients outstretched cupped hands if they are needed for help.

Diocese guidelines state that priests do not need to wear a mask while he celebrates the Mass. There should be no minister close to him.

Conclusion:

Please read it carefully and be familiar with it so that you are familiar with it to follow it when you will start coming for the public Mass. You will be informed when we are beginning our public Masses. So please do not be anxious about it. The whole world is fighting against this Pandemic. Let us join the world in this fight against this Pandemic. So let us take all the necessary precautions that we need to take to stop the spread of the disease. Praying for you and for your good health. God bless you.

Fr. Alexander Tigga.

Pastor – St. Theresa Parish

Dear Parishioners,

Greetings to you from me. I hope you are doing well. This is a good news for us that our Guidelines and Protocols are approved by the Diocese and we are given approval to restart our Masses next Sunday on "Pentecost Sunday." following all the Guidelines and Protocols. I will re-send the Guidelines again as some of you could not open it. Have a very Blessed Sunday. God bless you.

Homily ASCENSION SUNDAY YEAR A

Celebrating Jesus, the Divine Doctor of our souls - the Dr Carpenter Who is upstairs - and continues to heal people and bring salvation to all people!

A very poor family by the name of Carpenter, lived in the Blue Ridge Mountains of North Carolina. The oldest boy was given education in the city, with the help of some family friends, who generously financed his studies when they realized he wanted to become a doctor. The boy Carpenter, graduated with honors but declined all job offers to practice medicine in the city. He decided to go back to the mountains, where there were many sick people and few doctors. For many years he ministered to the sick. Some paid, most couldn't. He gave his very best and helped everyone he could. In his old age he was in broken health himself and almost penniless. Two small rooms above the town grocery store were his home and office.

At the foot of the creaky stairs leading up to his office was a sign with these words: "Dr. Carpenter is upstairs." One morning someone climbed those stairs to find their devoted doctor dead. The entire community was plunged in grief. They wanted to erect some kind of monument to him. But they decided to simply write these words on a large tombstone: "Dr. Carpenter is upstairs."

Today, on this Ascension Day, the Church proudly displays the placard of hope and salvation: "Dr Carpenter is upstairs!" But unlike the doctor boy who died, Jesus –the Divine Doctor of our souls – is alive and continues to heal people and bring salvation to all people! Yes, "Jesus, the Dr Carpenter is upstairs!" This is the day in which Jesus ascended to the heavens, as a culmination of the glory of the Resurrection on which Jesus gave the mission mandate of preaching His Good News to the entire world. In our proclamation of the Apostles' Creed, we affirm: "... He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty!"

The Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord is a declaration of various pointers for our reflection:

1. The Ascension is an event that reminds the glory and majesty of the Lord, who is sovereign over all. The Lord ascended. Elsewhere in the Bible, we have incidents of persons being taken up to heaven. Enoch was taken up by God: "Then Enoch walked with God and he was no longer here, for God took him" (Gen 5:24). Elijah went up: "As they walked on conversing, a flaming chariot and flaming horses came between Elisha

and Elijah, and Elijah went up to heaven in a whirlwind" (2Kgs 2: 11). Mother Mary was 'assumed' into heaven, body and soul (Dogma of the Assumption) However, Christ 'ascended' It was His Power that made Him to 'go up' to the heavens. This is a tremendous demonstration of His Divinity, His Glory and His Power!

2. The Ascension is an event which radiates hope to the suffering and optimism to the distressed

The interesting saga of Christ's life, beginning with, His simple yet powerful event of His Birth,

His ordinary yet impressive event of His ministry, His agonizing yet impactful event of His passion and death, His glorious and spectacularly amazing event of the Resurrection, finds its joyful and resplendent finale in His Ascension to the heavens. This is a beautiful exhibition of how a life, lived in faith and commitment, even if it has to go through the barbed wires of pain, humiliation, suffering and uncertainty has a splendid and magnificent ending!

3. The Ascension is an event that urges us in our commitment to be Missionaries for the Kingdom of God. The Lord's concluding words to His apostles constituted a binding mandate to go into the whole world and preach the Gospel to the whole creation to be an instrument of His power to cast out demons, to speak in new tongues, to endure poisons, to lay hands on sick and restore them to recovery. This is a dutiful reminder of how the Lord trusts and has immense confidence in each one of us to be the proclaimers of His word. The Lord wishes to reign over in our hearts. He wishes to be the sovereign ruler of our lives. May the Feast of the Ascension be a reminder for us to open our hearts to let the Lord to be in total command of our lives. May: a. The conviction in His love. b. The zeal to be His Missionaries and c. The passion to make this world a holier place help and strengthen us, to be "doctors of healing and love" in our world of suffering and pain!

Yes, "Dr Carpenter is Upstairs!"
Happy Feast of the Ascension!

God Bless YOU! Live Jesus!

With prayers and all the good wishes

Fr. Alexander Tigga MSFS

St. Therese of Lisieux Parish

284 Sonoita Ave.

P.O. Box 435

Patagonia, AZ 85624

Ph. 520-394-2954

“PUSHED” OUT ON MISSION

There is a delightful character in the original *Dr. Dolittle Tales* called the “Pushmi-Pullyu.” It is a beast with two identical halves, with a head at each end. No matter which direction the beast walks, one end is the “push me” and the other is the “pull you.” Today’s feast is a bit like that in the life of the church. In the book of the Acts of the Apostles, it is the ascension of Christ that calls for the Holy Spirit, which consequently sends or “pushes” the church out on its mission. This is the message that we hear from the angels today as they tell the friends of Jesus not to look up into the clouds, but to get busy. It is the message of Jesus himself in Matthew’s Gospel, as he sends them out to baptize. He also tells them, “I am with you always, until the end of the age” (Matthew 28:20). And it is this message, confident in faith that Jesus has ascended to shouts of joy, that “pulls” us along to our final destiny. The life of the faithful disciple, sent into the world on mission, will one day know the same risen, ascended glory.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Acts 19:1-8; Ps 68:2-3ab, 4-5acd, 6-7ab;
Jn 16:29-33

Tuesday: Acts 20:17-27; Ps 68:10-11, 20-21;
Jn 17:1-11a

Wednesday: Acts 20:28-38; Ps 68:29-30, 33-36ab;
Jn 17:11b-19

Thursday: Acts 22:30; 23:6-11; Ps 16:1-2a, 5, 7-11;
Jn 17:20-26

Friday: Acts 25:13b-21; Ps 103:1-2, 11-12, 19-20ab;
Jn 21:15-19

Saturday: Acts 28:16-20, 30-31; Ps 11:4, 5, 7;
Jn 21:20-25

Sunday: Vigil: Gn 11:1-9 or Ex 19:3-8a, 16-20b or
Ez 37:1-14 or Jl 3:1-5; Ps 104:1-2, 24, 35,
27-28, 29-30; Rom 8:22-27; Jn 7:37-39
Day: Acts 2:1-11; Ps 104:1, 24, 29-31, 34;
1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13; Jn 20:19-23

TODAY’S READINGS

First Reading — Jesus tells the disciples that they will be witnesses to the ends of the earth (Acts 1:1-11).

Psalm — God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord (Psalm 47).

Second Reading — May the Father of glory give you a Spirit of wisdom and revelation (Ephesians 1:17-23).

Gospel — Jesus instructs the Eleven to baptize and teach people of all nations (Matthew 28:16-20).

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: The Ascension of the Lord;
World Communications Day

Monday: St. Bede the Venerable; St. Gregory VII;
St. Mary Magdalene de’ Pazzi;
Memorial Day

Tuesday: St. Philip Neri

Wednesday: St. Augustine of Canterbury;
Shavuot (Jewish observance) begins at sunset

Thursday: Julian Calendar Ascension

Friday: St. Paul VI