

ST. THERESE OF THE CHILD JESUS

THE CHURCH OF THE FRANCISCANS
FR. BERNARD KARMANOCKY, OFM, PASTOR
FR. FRANCIS BALESTINO, IN RESIDENCE

CHURCH/RECTORY
536 Decker Avenue
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OFFICE HOURS WEEKLY
Monday – Friday
9:00AM---2:00PM
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The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)

Dec 25, 2022

FIRST READING: All the ends of the earth will behold the salvation of our God (Isaiah 52:7-10).

PSALM: The whole world has seen God's salvation (Psalm 98).

SECOND READING God has spoken to us through the Son, the very imprint of God's being (Hebrews 1:1-6).

GOSPEL: The Word became flesh; from his fullness we have all received grace (John 1:1-18 [1-5, 9-14]).

LITURGICAL REFLECTION: WHAT ALL THE WAITING HAS BEEN FOR

Today's readings are as familiar to most of us as the carols we sing and the commercials that overwhelm this holiday season. Often Christmas finds us tired, struggling with preparations and expectations. What we really want to feel is joy and peace. The stress of preparation, of waiting, is reflected in both Isaiah and Paul's letter to Titus. Luke tells us of the exhaustion that Mary and Joseph felt: a young pregnant wife and her husband, forced to travel just as she is about to give birth, unable even to find a room to stay in. It must have been miserable. They must have been afraid. In the midst of this exhaustion, misery, and fear, a child is born, a Son is given. The world is then filled with light and hope, joy and peace. In that moment they, and we, know what all the waiting has been for. Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

WEEKLY PARISH EVENTS CALENDAR

SUN	12/25	
MON	12/26	
TUES	12/27	
WED	12/28	
THURS	12/29	
FRI	12/30	
SAT	12/31	..... NO CONFESSION
SUN	01/01	HAPPY NEW YEAR!!



MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK: (Dec 26th – Jan 1st)

MON	12/26	..... 7:50AM	..... + Thomas Freidman – (Patty Marshall)
TUES	12/27	..... 7:50AM	..... Good Health for Eileen Majcher
WED	12/28	..... 7:50AM	..... + Kay Schultz – (Christian Mothers)
THUR	12/29	..... 7:50AM	..... + (A) John Makolaj – (Sister, Anne Figart)
FRI	12/30	..... 7:50AM	..... + Laverne Bobby – (Carmen Tresello)
SAT	New Years Eve	4:00PM	..... + Michael Macy – (Wife & Family) Happy New Year's
SUN	12/25	..... 7:30AM	..... + Thomas Friedman – (Rich & Janet Bower)
		..... 10:30AM	..... + Charles Karalfa – (Family)

Sunday Dec 25, 2022

Stewardship Reflections: The opening words of the Gospel of John are why we celebrate Christmas, "The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came to be through him." The angel Gabriel greeted our Blessed Mother Mary with the Greek word Kaire! That means "Be joyful." At Christmas Eve Mass we hear, "I proclaim to you good news of great joy; today a Savior is born for us, Christ the Lord."

Pope Francis opened his sermon on Christmas day last year by saying this: "Christmas is joy, religious joy, an inner joy of light and peace." Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI shares this: "Joy is the true gift of Christmas. We can communicate this joy simply: with a smile, a kind gesture, a little help, forgiveness. And the joy we give will certainly come back to us... Let us pray that this presence of the liberating joy of God shines forth in our lives." Let us take that joy and change our lives and the lives of others. When we say "Merry Christmas" let us mean it with every fabric of our being.

Catholic Stewardship Consultants, Inc. 2019/7/05)

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS (Dec 17th & Dec 18th 2022)

Weekly	.....	\$	3,054.50
Building Fund	.....	\$	125.00
Christmas	.....	\$	1,753.00

Thank you and May God Bless you for your continued support of St. Therese Church.

Sincere Condolences - The St. Therese Community would like to offer our sincere condolences to the family of **Betty Quinn**, who was called to her eternal reward this week. May God grant His eternal rest to **Betty** and peace and consolation to her family.



The Office will be closed on Monday Dec 26th, we will reopen on Tuesday, Dec 27th @9AM.



2023 Envelopes & Calendars- Adult and children's envelopes & calendars are available in the vestibule, please stop by and pick yours up. If you have a relative or neighbor who are unable to attend, please drop their envelopes & a calendar off for them. They will be happy to see you!

Families and the Gospel - (John: 1: 1-18)

This Christmas remember your task as a parent is the same as Mary's: We must not let our doubts, fears and unfulfilled expectations get in the way of our loving ACCEPTANCE of our children



Dear Parishioners

May the Lord give you His peace.

They say that this is the time for giving and that some types of gifts keep on giving. At Christmas we celebrate God the Father's gift of His Son to us and this is certainly the Gift that keeps on giving. We are in the midst of a three-year renewal of the gift of the Eucharist. It is here that we keep on receiving the Father's Gift of His Son. May this time of Christmas awaken in us a deeper appreciation of this wonderful Gift of the Son given to us over and over again and give back to the Father our thanks over and over again. After all Christmas is "Christ's Mass."

On behalf of Fr. Balestino and myself may you and your loved ones have a most blessed Christmas season and life.

Fr. Bernard

Fr. Balestino

FR. BERNARD ON SABBATICAL

Fr. Bernard has received permission from Bishop Mark to go on a 6-month sabbatical beginning sometime in January or February. There may be a disruption in some services. In January Bishop Mark and Fr. Alan Thomas, the vicar general, would like to meet with the staff and concerned parishioners of both St. Therese and St. Anne's sometime in January.