

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
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Second Sunday of Easter

April 16, 2023

FIRST READING: All who believed were devoted to the teachings of the apostles, the communal life, the breaking of the bread, and prayer (Acts 2:42-47).

PSALM: Be thankful to God who loves us forever (Psalm 118).

SECOND READING: God has given us an undiminished inheritance, safeguarded for us in heaven (1 Peter 1:3-9).

GOSPEL: The risen Christ comes to his disciples with peace and the Spirit. The absent Thomas doubts (John 20:19-31).

LITURGICAL REFLECTION: EXEMPLAR OF THE FAITH

Poor Thomas. Singled out from among the disciples because he refused to believe what they were telling him—that they had seen, in the flesh, their friend and their Lord, Jesus Christ. Can any of us really blame him? All of the disciples were terrified, crestfallen, hiding. But what of Thomas? Just where was he when Jesus appeared the first time to the group huddled in fear? He had gone “out”—out of the community where his faith had life. Maybe this was actually a blessing for Thomas and not the curse associated with the “doubting Thomas” moniker bestowed on him by tradition. Oh, the divine mercy of the Lord! Could Thomas be the forerunner of all of us who come in fragile hope and uncertainty to the Christian community, so beautifully described in the reading from the Acts of the Apostles? Could Thomas be an ultimate exemplar of the faith described in the First Letter of Peter? Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co

WEEKLY PARISH EVENTS CALENDAR

SUN	04/16	
MON	04/17	
TUES	04/18	
WED	04/19	
THURS	04/20	
FRI	04/21	
SAT	04/22	3:00PM CONFESSION
SUN	04/23	

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK: (April 17th– April 23rd)

MON	4/17. 7:50AM.	+ Marsha Loncella – (Sandra Huston & Blanche Timmeney)
TUES	4/18. 7:50AM.	+ John Jedrzejek – (Sister, Bonnie Kepp)
WED	4/19. 7:50AM.Sr. Mary Elizabeth of the Trinity
THUR	4/20. 7:50AM	+ Nancy Schultz (one month mind) – Joann Wade
FRI	4/21. 7:50AM	+ Good Health for Kenny Shank – (Dominec Petrore)
SAT	4/22 4:00PM	+ (A) Jason Mulvehill – (Mom & Dad)
SUN	4/23. 7:30AM.	+ Chuck Dzendzel – (Wife, Helen)
	. . . 10:30AM.	+ (A) Reginald Lengyel – (Wife & Family)



Sunday April 16, 2023

Stewardship Reflections: The Christian steward approaches life with an "Easter vision" rooted in gratitude for the salvation our Lord has won for us. We can have complete trust in the mercy of God to lead us, step by step, to heaven. This is challenging when things like job stress, family crises, health troubles, and political strife loom large on the horizon. We can find ourselves becoming cynical like Thomas, in the Gospel. He was beaten down by the events of the last several days, and refused to believe that the others had indeed "seen the Lord." Thomas stubbornly does not believe their story until he placed his finger into the nail marks and his hand into the Lord's side. These doubts actually drew Jesus to Thomas in an extraordinary way. Jesus recognized Thomas' pain and disappointment. Jesus calmed his doubts and fears, by allowing Thomas to touch those Sacred Wounds. What amazing grace! When we are tempted to give into doubts about our faith, all we need to do is seek the Lord and He will restore our "Easter vision" through prayer, in the sacraments, and through the encouragement of our Christian communities. Our Lord is mercy itself.

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

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS (April 8th & April 9th 2023)

Weekly	\$ 4,084.00
Building Fund	\$ 115.00
Easter	\$ 7,795.00

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

REGINA CAELI - The Regina Caelis is said beginning Easter Sunday until Pentecost. It is said standing:

- V. Queen of Heaven, rejoice! Alleluia.
 R. For He whom you merited to bear, Alleluia
 V. Has risen, as He said, Alleluia
 R. Pray for us to God, Alleluia
 V. Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary, Alleluia!
 R. For the Lord has truly risen, Alleluia.

Let us Pray: O God, who through the resurrection of Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, has given joy to this world; grant, we beseech You, that through the intercession of the Virgin Mary, His Mother, we may attain the same joys of eternal life. Through the same Christ, Our Lord. Amen

The St Therese's Community would like to extend our sincerest congratulations on the Baptism of **Lia Noelle Goller**, daughter of Brandon & Beth Ann (Zett) Goller, who was baptized on Sunday, April 9th. Lia, may you grow in God's love and grace.



Thanks to All for a Beautiful Easter Celebration -



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We would like to express our sincere gratitude to everyone who helped make our Easter celebration a beautiful experience! Thank you to those who cleaned, decorated, and arranged the flowers in the church. Special thanks the Lectors and Eucharist Ministers. We would also like to thank Barb Bartkovich, the Choir & Organist for providing us with the beautiful music. God Blessings to All!

Many Thanks for all your Easter Greetings. They are deeply appreciated. God Bless You. Christ is Risen!



Fr Balestino

Our Catholic Ministries Drive - Together We Serve-

Your sacrificial gifts of prayer and treasure will make an immediate impact on ministries that care for the poor, strengthen family life, nurture our youth, and provide leadership development for clergy and laity. 100% of your gift goes directly to these ministries! As of March 31st, we have collected \$6,310.00 of our \$21,083.00 Goal. Please consider making a pledge to the Ministries Drive. You have until Dec 31st 2023 to pay your pledge in full.

Summer Basket Bash

The **Summer Bash** has been set for **July 22nd & 23rd 2023**. We are asking again for **Themed baskets at least \$25 in value**. The next meeting is **Monday, May 8th at 6PM**. Anyone interested in helping plan or working the Bash please attend the next meeting. This is a Church Fundraiser; we will need as many hands as possible. It is your chance to **Get Involved!**

Families and the Gospel - Divine Mercy Sunday: (John 20: 13-21

"Whose sins you forgive, are forgiven" means the grudges we carry only make us miserable. The Kingdom of God begins in your home where children learn the paths to peace promised in today's gospel through merciful and forgiving demonstrations by their parents

Community News & Events



Drive by Spaghetti Dinner

Come to the **Church of the Transfiguration** on **Sunday, April 30th** and enjoy an easy and quick Sunday dinner. Come into our parking lot at 219 Third St Conemaugh, and follow the directions and pay for your dinner. It is **\$8 a meal** that includes hot Spaghetti, 2 meatballs, bun, salad, and dessert. Drive down to the kitchen and someone will bring up your hot meals to your car. Drive home and enjoy!

Thank you for your support.

"Babies are bits of stardust, blown down from the hand of God"

ABORTION - "The joy of motherhood comes in moments. There will be hard times and frustrating times. But amid the challenges, there are shining moments of joy and satisfaction."

**** Elder M. Russell Ballard****



The St Anne's Christian Mother's Annual Basket Party will be held **TODAY SUNDAY April 16th** Doors open at Noon. Tickets are \$5 for 25 basket chances and includes cake & coffee. Additional tickets and food will also be available for purchase

St. Therese Christian Mothers Flea Market & Bake Sale

Our Flea Market and Bake Sale will take place **Friday, May 5TH** and **Saturday, May 6TH** from 9 to 1PM in the Social Hall.



Gathering dates will be:

- 9 to 12AM on May 1st, 2nd, and 3rd

Once again, we ask that ALL items be clean and in good repair. We will not take anything that is dirty, torn or damaged. Thank you so much for your cooperation. Start your spring cleaning! **Please omit clothing, shoes, TVs, computers, car seats, and outdoor grills as we are unable to sell these items.**



Upcoming Dates to Remember – Mark Your Calendars!!!

April 16 th	St Anne's Christian Mothers Basket Party
April 23 rd	First Holy Communion St Therese
May 4 th	Confirmation - St. Johns Gualbert Cathedral
May 5 th & 6 th	St Therese Christian Mothers Spring Flea Market
May 8 th	Summer Burger & Bash Meeting 6PM
July 22 nd & 23 rd	Burgers & Baskets Summer Bash

Trash to Treasures

May 12th & 13th. Annual West End Pickers. Trash to Treasures indoor yard sale, St Therese Social Hall, 8AM- 1PM. Something for everyone! Proceeds from this sale go toward our projects: surveillance cameras, garden/flower boxes and community events.



The 2023 Bishop McCort Catholic High School Musical, Anyone Can Whistle, will be held Friday, April 21st and Saturday, April 22nd at 7:00 PM and Sunday, April 23rd at 2:00 PM in the Guzzi Performing Arts Center, 25 Osborne Street. Tickets for this event are \$12 for adults and \$6 for students. Tickets can be purchased at the door or in advance by phoning (814) 536-8991