

ST. THERESE OF THE CHILD JESUS

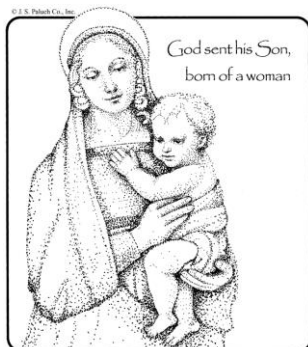
THE CHURCH OF THE FRANCISCANS
BERNARD KARMANOCKY, OFM, PASTOR
FR. FRANCIS BALESTINO, IN RESIDENCE

CHURCH/RECTORY

536 Decker Avenue
Johnstown, PA 15906

OFFICE HOURS WEEKLY

Monday – Friday
9:00AM---2:00PM
Website: StThereseJohnstown.com
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CONVENT

702 Saybrook Place
Johnstown, PA 15906

SOCIAL HALL: 535-8805
CHURCH HALL: 536-2287
CONVENT: 536-2287
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The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

December 31, 2023

FIRST READING: — Those who honor and comfort their parents shall never be forgotten
(Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14).

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways (Psalm 128)

SECOND READING — You are called into one body. Bear with one another; forgive one another;
let Christ's peace control you (Colossians 3:12-21 [12-17]).

GOSPEL — The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom (Luke 2:22-40 [22, 39-40]).

LITURGICAL REFLECTION — We gaze at the Holy Family this Christmas time. We gather with our families these days of Christmas. Our attention is focused on the infant who is surrounded by love. We pray that our families be grounded in the love of the newborn Child. When faced with challenges and crises, turn to the Holy Family and seek guidance and protection. When the challenges of life seem overbearing, turn to Jesus, Mary and Joseph to find comfort. Pray for right judgment and the faith to live in harmony.

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WEEKLY PARISH EVENTS CALENDAR

MON	1/1 Happy New Year / Office will be closed
TUES	1/2	
WED	1/3	
THURS	1/4	
FRI	1/5	
SAT	1/6	3:00PM Confession
Next Sun	1/7	



MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK: (Jan 1st - Jan 7th)

Happy New Years

MON	1/01	..... 7:30AM. + Dominec Petreore – (Stibich Family)
		..... 10:30AM. + Sophie Mulvehill – (Denny & Marilyn Alberter)
TUES	1/02	..... 7:50AM. + Teresa Lill– (Sister, Patricia Henley)
WED	1/03	..... 7:50AM. + Joan Loncar - (Jim Kiepet)
THUR	1/04	..... 7:50AM. + James Marshall – (Darren & Cheri Gritzer)
		..... 12:00PM + Christian Mothers
FRI	1/05	..... 7:50AM. + Kevin Gritzer – (Ron & Leona Gombar)
SAT	1/06	..... 4:00PM + Frank Karmanocky – (Abe & Mary Kay Skakunik)
SUN	1/07	..... 7:30AM. + (A) Bob Hubbard – (Wife, Teresa Family)
		..... 10:30AM. + (WA) Paul & Jean Nikonow – (Son, Paul & Marie)



Sunday Dec 31, 2023

Stewardship Reflections: Today we celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph. They are a model for all families! And just as the Holy Family is holy, our families too are called to be holy. This may seem like a daunting task at times! Yet, as Christian stewards we know that this holiness is achievable by living as disciples of Christ. Our Gospel today says a great deal about trust and surrender to our Lord - two trademark words of a steward. As the Holy Family brought the infant Jesus to the temple, they encountered two key individuals, Simeon and Anna. Upon seeing the Infant, both praised the Lord, rejoiced in the coming of their Savior and prophesized about what was to come. It says, "the child's father and mother were amazed at what was said about him." We can imagine that two parents would be taken aback by these words! Yet, through all of this, the Holy Family surrendered their lives to God and had unwavering faith and trust in His plan. Thankfully, they did, because the fulfillment of this plan meant the salvation for man! Believe it or not, God has a plan for our lives too. Oftentimes, we get in the way of what He has in store for us. Although our plan might be 'good', God's plan is great and will fulfill our hearts more than we could ever have imagined. Like the Holy Family, we just need to trust, surrender and be attentive to God's voice. As we celebrate this Christmas season with joy and gladness for our Savior, let us deepen our commitment to Him through the love and service we give our family members, and the trust and surrender we place in God to take care of us each day

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS (Dec 23rd & Dec 24th 2023)

Weekly	.....	\$ 3,084.00
Building Fund	.....	\$ 40.00
Christmas	.....	\$ 3,990.00

(Dec 24th & Dec 25th 2023)

Weekly	.....	\$ 646.75
Building Fund	.....	\$ 29.00
Fuel	.....	\$ 50.00
Christmas	.....	\$ 8,552.25

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



The Solemnity of Mary is not a Holy Day of Obligation. The New Year's Mass schedule is as follows: New Year's Eve, Sunday at 4PM and Monday New Years Day at 7:30AM & 10:30AM.

The Christian Mothers will have their rosary, Mass and meeting on Thursday, Jan 4th starting at 11:30AM.

Thank you so very much!! A special thank you to everyone who helped to get the Church ready for Christmas! All the hard work that went into cleaning and decorating of the Church, the Lectors, and the Eucharistic Ministers is deeply appreciated. Thank and God Bless each and everyone.

A Special Thank You to the Senior Choir

We would like to thank Barb Bartkovich and the senior choir for the beautiful music program presented at Midnight Mass. It was BEAUTIFUL! We would also like to thank Luis Gonzalez & Bob Bambino for your musical talents, and the rendition of Holy night with the guitar was lovely. We appreciate all your hard work preparing and performing the beautiful and uplifting music



Children's Party Thank You - A special Thank You goes out to everyone involved in making this year's breakfast with Santa a huge success. The food was delicious and the snowman ornament were so cute! The high light of the day of course, was the visit from Samta and Mrs. Claus bearing gifts. The kids really had a great time.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

Classes will resume on Jan 7th, 2024.

2024 Envelopes & Calendars- Adult & Children's envelopes & calendars are available in the back of the church. Please stop in the vestibule and pick up your envelopes.

Families and the Gospel - (Luke: 2:22-40)
The gospel today shows Mary and Joseph were not "perfect" parents. If you have ever been "amazed" and "astonished" at what came out of your child's mouth, then you are in good company. If there were times you "didn't understand" your children or felt "anxious" about their behavior so did Mary and Joseph. Parenting is tough but it is also the stuff of holiness.

*May the LORD bless you, and keep you;
May the LORD let His face shine upon you, and be gracious to you;
May the LORD look upon you and grant you peace.
Numbers 6:24-26:*