

# ST. THERESE OF THE CHILD JESUS

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

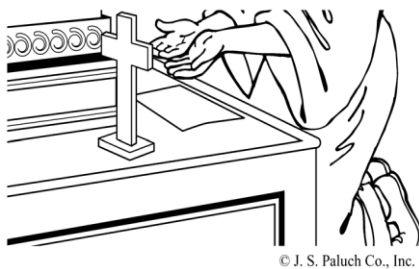
## CHURCH/RECTORY

536 Decker Avenue  
Johnstown, PA 15906

## OFFICE HOURS WEEKLY

Monday – Friday  
9:00AM---2:00PM

Website: [StThereseJohnstown.com](http://StThereseJohnstown.com)  
Email: [stthereseofm@atlanticbbn.net](mailto:stthereseofm@atlanticbbn.net)



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## CONVENT

702 Saybrook Place  
Johnstown, PA 15906

SOCIAL HALL: 535-8805  
CHURCH HALL: 536-2287  
CONVENT: 536-2287  
RECTORY: 539-7633

## Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time January 28, 2024

**FIRST READING:** Moses spoke to all the people, saying: “A prophet like me will the LORD, your God, raise up for you” (Deuteronomy 18:15-20).

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM:** If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts (Psalm 95).

**SECOND READING** — Brothers and sisters: I should like you to be free of anxieties (1 Corinthians 7:32-35).

**GOSPEL** -- The people were astonished at Jesus’ teaching; he taught them as one having authority (Mark 1:21-28).

### LITURGICAL REFLECTION FALSE PROPHETS, TRUE PROPHETS

In Deuteronomy today we hear that God’s very words will fill the mouth of a true prophet, but a false prophet will, in a manner of speaking, put mere mortal words into God’s mouth. In Mark’s Gospel, we see Jesus teaching and healing as a true prophet, one filled with the authority of God’s own voice, the Holy One of God. The whole history of our church is filled with both true and false prophets. But in today’s Gospel we learn that Jesus’ fame spread because he taught with authority; he wasn’t an authority because he was popular or famous. We also learn from him, in his desert temptation confrontations with Satan, that anyone can quote scripture, even against God’s purposes. And today we hear that his authority was not like that of the scribes, who held the official positions of religious authority in his day. Our work is to do our best to discern the true prophets in our midst, and to be true prophets as well. The psalmist tells us how to do this: by not hardening our hearts when God speaks. If we truly listen to God, it will be God’s very words filling our mouths.

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### WEEKLY PARISH EVENTS CALENDAR

MON	1/29		
TUES	1/30		
WED	1/31		
THURS	2/01	11:30AM . . . . .	Christian Mothers Rosary, Mass and Meeting
FRI	2/02		
SAT	2/03	3:00PM . . . . .	Confession
Next Sun	2/04		Blessing of the Throat after all Masses



### MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK: (Jan 29<sup>th</sup> – Feb 4<sup>th</sup>)

MON	1/29 . . . . .	7:30AM . . . . .	Eileen Majcher prayers for Good Health
TUES	1/30 . . . . .	7:50AM . . . . .	+ Linda Petrone– (David & Christine Cox)
WED	1/31 . . . . .	7:50AM . . . . .	+ Kevin Gritzer - (Marshall Family)
THUR	2/01 . . . . .	7:50AM . . . . .	+ Louella Skakunik – (Marlene & Don Kott)
		. . . . . 12:00PM . . . . .	+ Christian Mothers
FRI	2/02 . . . . .	7:50AM . . . . .	+ Julie Maser – (Rose Howarth & John Slezak)
SAT	2/03 . . . . .	4:00PM . . . . .	+ (B) Carol David – (Sister, Dolores, Bill & Billy Gentile)
SUN	2/04 . . . . .	7:30AM . . . . .	+ (WA) John & Mary Kondash – (Son, Vince)
		. . . . . 10:30AM . . . . .	+ Frank Karmanocky – (Chuck DiFalco)



# Sunday Jan 28, 2024

**Stewardship Reflections:** Our readings today remind us of God's authority. If we willingly give God authority over our lives and trust in His provision, He will take care of us no matter what. Our Gospel today reminds us why we want to give God this authority.

Jesus was teaching in the synagogue on the Sabbath. All were fixed on His words and astonished at what He had to say. Suddenly everyone's attention shifted to a man with an unclean spirit who began to question Jesus and His authority. Jesus responded, "Quiet, come out of him!" and removed the evil spirit from the man. All were amazed at the healing of this man.

Life can sometimes look like the synagogue in Capernaum. We are living as disciples of Christ, when we suddenly recognize evil around us - through events in our lives, temptations we are enduring, or by falling into sin. It can distract us, consume our attention, or even cause us to despair. In these moments of trial, we must remember the Healer in our Gospel today. Recall His words, "Quiet, come out of him!" Jesus has the power and authority over evil, for He has conquered sin and death. He also has the power and authority over us. And when we invite Him to have the authority, He will heal us and help us persevere. Today, we are reminded that God is in control and that we want Him to be in control. He is the loving Healer that will work miracles in our lives if we give Him the authority to do so

### LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS (Jan 20<sup>th</sup> & Jan 21<sup>st</sup>, 2024)

Weekly	.....	\$ 3,623.00
Building Fund	.....	\$ 65.00
Fuel	.....	\$ 20.00

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



**Blessing of Homes...**If you would like Fr. Bernard to bless your home in the New Year, please call the Rectory Office @539-7633 or put a note with your name, address, and phone number in the collection basket.



In honor of Saint Blasé' we will have Blessing of the Throat before and after all Masses next weekend, Feb 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup>



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**Christian Mothers** will hold their Monthly Rosary, Mass & Meeting on Thursday, February 1<sup>st</sup> starting at 11:30AM.

## GIVING STATEMENTS

If you would like a copy of your 2023 Contribution for taxes, please fill out the form below and drop it in the collection basket or call rectory 814-539-7633.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

### St Therese Ground Hog's Day ticket

TODAY will be the last day to buy your Ground Hog Day Ticket.

Tickets are \$20. for 5 numbers.

Winning determined by the PA Pick 3 evening number on February 2, 2024.

Winning number will take home \$1500.00

\$250 for the number above & below.

You can buy your tickets before Mass or you can stop by the rectory during normal business hours  
Mon -Fri 9-2

### **Families and the Gospel** - (Mark 1: 21-28)

Today's gospel reminds us "unclean spirits" still haunt our families. These "spirits" thrive inside our grudges, punishing silence, impatience, and abruptness. Today Jesus offers you the "authority" to cast out these spirits from your life and your family

OLD PALMS - You can drop off your old palms in the box in the back of the church.

### Community News & Events

#### UPCOMING CATHOLIC SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE DATES:

Divine Mercy East and West - Wednesday, January 31, 2024 from 6:00 - 7:30 PM.



#### St Benedict Church Fish Fry

Feb 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>, Mar 1<sup>st</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup>

Eat in or Take -out 3:30PM -7PM

Phone 266-9718 X206 from 3PM - 6:30PM

Online orders [www.stbenedictchurch.org/fishfry](http://www.stbenedictchurch.org/fishfry) and place your credit card order for 7AM to 6PM the day of the dinner. All major credit/debit cards will be accepted.

**All Saints Parish** (Somerset County) will offer a lecture on **Italian culture by Sam Patti** on Monday Feb 5th at 6:30PM at their parish hall (505 Center Street), entitled "Understanding Italian American Culture: Reading, Listening, Watching and Googling into Clarity." Sam is the owner of LaPrima Coffee Company in Pittsburgh and has been a student and teacher of Italian American history and culture for over 45 years. He has done graduate work in the field at the University of Pittsburgh and the University of Pennsylvania. All are welcome, refreshments will be served for more information or to register, please contact the Boswell parish office (814-629-5551)

**Young Adult Group (18-39):** Theology on Tap returns January 31<sup>st</sup> from 6-8pm at The Boulevard Grill (165 Southmont Boulevard). In December we had our first service project Christmas Caroling at a Westmont retirement community. The event was a success with the retirement community singing along to every song! Our January guest speaker is Remil Teny - Education Director of the Pennsylvania Pro-Life Federation. Young adults of all faiths aged 18-39 are welcome to join us for faith, fellowship, and free food with a cash bar! Thank you to Saint John Gualbert Cathedral for providing January's food. For more information contact Geoffrey Stumpo at (814) 659-7415 or [geoffstumpo@gmail.com](mailto:geoffstumpo@gmail.com).

**MEN'S CONFERENCE** --Register today for the 2024 Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown STRENGTH IN CHRIST men's conference on March 3 from 11:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at Mount Aloysius College in Cresson. The theme is J2J: *Journey to Jesus*. Nationally recognized speaker and musician Cooper Ray will be the keynote presenter. Father Michael Pleva and Father Brian Norris will also share their incredible faith journeys. Also, a great panel discussion with six Catholic men from throughout the diocese sure to inspire guys on their faith journey. The day includes lunch and Mass at 5 PM. with Bishop Mark. **There is no cost.** Seating is limited, so register before February 23 online at [dioceseaj.org](http://dioceseaj.org) or pick up a hard copy registration form at any parish.

### Happy Groundhog Day



**No matter how long the winter,  
Spring is sure to follow**

### Finding Your Own Way to Pray

By Jim and Susan Vogt

Susan isn't comfortable raising her arms in praise. Jim found Forty Hours devotion less than satisfying even as an altar boy. As children, we both learned the rosary but seldom say it. None of these prayer styles is wrong; it's just that prayer is such a personal experience. What inspires one person bores another. What seems old-fashioned to one connects another with their religious heritage. Prayer, be it memorized or spontaneous, individual or communal, filled with incense or the fragrance of pine needles in the woods, is communication with God. Most people eventually seek answers to life's persistent questions: Is there anything more than what meets the eye? Is there really an afterlife? We may not often be aware of these yearnings, but sooner or later, a crisis occurs, a life-changing decision is before us or we simply marvel at the miracle of a newborn child—and so we pray. Are we holier if we pray more? Yes, prayer puts us in a more conscious relationship with God. This relationship of thankfulness, dependence, trust and honor should make us better people—more aware of our inner selves and more attentive to the needs of others. Prayer generally falls into the broad categories of verbal or nonverbal, individual or communal, memorized or spontaneous, contemplative or active. Those seeking a more prayerful life might experiment with many forms of prayer and let trial and error lead them to deeper conversation with God. Remember, prayer is basically conversation with God. Books and organized prayer can help, but if you have a relationship with someone, you want to spend time together. If you can talk, you can pray. Talking isn't even required; just being in each other's company is what counts. But prayer isn't all there is to spirituality. Becoming a holier, more spiritual person includes having an attitude of gratefulness, looking for the good in others rather than complaining, living out the corporal and spiritual works of mercy, and doing the dishes and changing diapers as acts of service for those we love. Donating money so that others' lives may be a little better, putting up with annoyances, enduring an illness or physical pain, sacrificing our wants for the needs of another—all these actions make our hearts bigger and deepen our spirituality. Consider this: If you're too busy to pray, you're too busy. Excerpted and used with permission from: Every Day Catholic. 28 W. Liberty St., Cincinnati, OH 45202 or [www.EveryDayCatholic.org](http://www.EveryDayCatholic.org)