

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
Email: stthereseofm@atlanticbbn.net



CONVENT

702 Saybrook Place
Johnstown, PA 15906

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

Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

Aug 25, 2024

FIRST READING: Joshua challenges the Israelites to serve either the Lord or other gods. They choose the Lord (Joshua 24:1-2a, 15-17, 18b).

PSALM: Taste and see the goodness of the Lord (Psalm 34).

SECOND READING: Paul reflects on how husbands and wives should reverence and love each other (Ephesians 5:21-32 [2a, 25-32]).

GOSPEL: Master, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life (John 6:60-69).

LITURGICAL REFLECTION: In the Gospel today, the disciples ask Jesus, “This saying is hard; who can accept it?” While he is speaking of the Bread of Life, that we must partake of his Body and Blood to see salvation, his lesson should not be lost on us. Christ has taught us the path to his Father. St. Paul, in his letter, is helping to illuminate that path. The path to holiness and to follow Christ is hard. Many followers of Christ have abandoned him, just as they did in today’s Gospel. As a human being, I can imagine the pain in Christ’s heart as he turns to his apostles and asks, “Do you also want to leave?” It would do us well to remember the words of St. Peter’s response. “Master, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and are convinced that you are the Holy One of God.” When we encounter teachings that challenge us, such as today’s teaching from St. Paul, we must remember that all that is in scripture is for our salvation. They are the words of eternal life. Sometimes they take some time to comprehend. But where else would we go? There is no other path to salvation.

WEEKLY PARISH EVENTS CALENDAR

SUN	8/25	
MON	8/26	
TUES	8/27	
WED	8/28	
THURS	8/29	
FRI	8/30	
SAT	8/21	3:00PM Confession
Next Sun	9/01	

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK: - (Aug 26th– Sept 1st)

MON	8/26	7:50AM	+ Steve Kohan Jr– (Rose Howarth & John Slezak)
TUES	8/27	7:50AM	+ (B) Henry Gorczycki – (Family)
WED	8/28	7:50AM	+ M/M Joseph Cisz – (Daughter, Joan Cisz)
THUR	8/29	7:50AM	+ (A) Joan Loncar – (Bev Majerski)
FRI	8/30	7:50AM	+ Bob Gritzer – (Cass Kasper)
SAT	8/31	4:00PM	+ Frank & Eileen Maslo – (Thomas & MaryAnn Furnari)
SUN	9/01	7:30AM	+ (B) Agnes Labuda Mash – (Sister, Marie & Paul Nikonow)
	10:30AM	+ Sue Ellen Dadey – (Eugene & Brenda Pentz)



Sunday, Aug 25, 2024

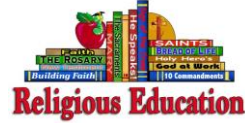


Stewardship Reflections: Our readings today challenge us to reflect on how we are living as disciples of Christ. They offer us examples of how we should be living, and they present us with an opportunity to make a radical changes in our lives - reminding us to serve only our one Lord and to serve our spouse and our family faithfully.

With these readings in mind, we must strive each day to live intentionally as disciples of Christ. It starts with commitment - incorporating personal daily prayer and increasing that prayer week by week, incorporating prayer into our marriages and families, frequenting the sacraments, and serving others. Through this time with the Lord and service to those around us, He will reveal where to go next.

Today, let us pray for the strength to live our lives as Joshua proclaimed, "As for me and my household, we will serve the Lord."

Christian Mothers will be taking orders for "RADA" thru the month of August. Catalogs can be found in the back of Church. Please submit your order with payment in the collections jar, or to any Christian Mother. Many items have been discounted in this catalog. If you have any questions, please call Helen Sorchilla 535-1141. Make check payable to the St Therese Christian Mothers.



A **Parent Meeting** is scheduled for Sunday, **Sept 15th at 6:00PM in the Church Hall.** We would appreciate at least one Parent attend. **First CCD Class will be held on Sunday, Sept. 22nd at 9AM**

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS
(Aug 17th & Aug 18th 2024)

Weekly	\$ 3,365.00
Building Fund	\$ 70.00
Fuel	\$ 5.00

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



For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat...
Matthew 25:35

If I've said it once I will say it a thousand times, we have the **BEST PARISHINERS EVER** hands down! It never seems to amaze me that when the parish is in of something, anything you respond above and beyond. Thank you for stocking the shelves up in the food pantry. May God Bless you all for your generosity.

Catholic Ministries Drive

Encountering Christ. Thank you to the **54** families who have pledged to date a total of **\$11,335.00** towards our target amount of **\$24,902.00**. Please prayerfully consider making a pledge according to your means so we will be able to reach that target. You have until Dec 31st 2024 to pay your pledge in full. **Keep in mind, if we fall short of our goal, we will pay the balance out of our Parish Funds.**

With our new chairs bought, our old wooden chairs will be made available to our parishioners at no cost to you. It is a first come first served, and we do ask for a 12-chair limit so that everyone has a chance. **Pick up Wed Aug 28th 1-4 and Sunday Sept 1 11:30- 12:30PM**

KOC Council 10409 is having CPR, AED and First Aid Training on Sept 21st from 9AM - Noon in the Church Hall. Training is open to anyone 12 years and older. Cost \$15 per person. Contact Joe Hochstein at 814-536-0455 or Brian Mikolich at 814-418-4570 to register and pay fee.



Bishop Mark Bartchak and the Family Life Office cordially invite all couples celebrating 1, 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, 55, 60+ years of marriage in 2024 (and their families) to attend the **Annual Wedding Anniversary Liturgy**. Couples may attend **Sunday, September 8th in ALTOONA at Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament** or **Sunday, September 15th in JOHNSTOWN at St. John Gualbert Cathedral**. Both locations are handicap accessible. Liturgies in each location begin at 2:00 p.m. Most Rev. Bishop Mark will be the celebrant and homilist at each celebration. **Last day to register is this Tuesday, August 27.**

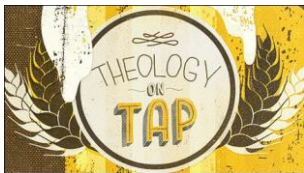
Families and the Gospel - (John 6: 60-69) Even though many found the teachings of Jesus "difficult", He did not back down. In our families it is important to say what is difficult to hear, to speak the truth with kindness, to correct with love and guide with understanding. " is a statement of fact. Believe it. Live it.

The Westmont Johnstown Girl Scout Service Unit # 4651 is collecting items to make birthday cake kits for children in need. Items being collected include: 9x13 aluminum cake pan with lid, Funfetti cake mix, Funfetti icing, case of Sprite cans, box of candles, Walmart gift card, Dollar Tree gift card. We will use the gift cards to purchase any items needed to complete the kits. The kits will be assembled by the Girl Scouts in September as their service project in honor of National Month of Service. Any donations are greatly appreciated and will be collected in the box labeled in the back church until September 1. Contact Kristen Battaglia at 814-322-8555 with any questions. Thank you!



Sept 19th Piroghi Project - Social hall
 Sept 23rd-Oct 1st St Therese Novena
 Sept 22nd - First Day CCD 9AM
 Oct 12th & 13th - Oktoberfest

Community News & Events



Young Adult Group (18-39): We had a successful July with Theology on Tap, Benediction & Board Games, and our first young adult hike. Our next Theology on Tap is August 28th at the Boulevard Grill at 6pm with Fr. Stephen Mary Waruszewski T.O.R. of Saint Francis University speaking on The Blessed Virgin Mary. Young adults of all faiths aged 18-39 are welcome to join us for faith and fellowship on last Wednesdays for Theology on Tap and second Fridays for other events! For more information contact Geoffrey Stumpo at (814) 659-7415 or geoffstumpo@gmail.com.



ST. FRANCIS FISH FRY -

St. Francis of Assisi will have a Fish Fry on Friday, September 13th, at the Activity Center, corner of D Street and Barron Avenue. A LUNCH SPECIAL (Fried Fish Sandwich and French Fries, NO SUBSTITUTIONS) will be offered from 11AM until 1:00 PM (TAKE OUT ONLY). The full menu will be served from 2:00PM - 6:00PM, eat-in or takeout. Meals will be served while supplies last. ****DEBIT/CREDIT CARDS ARE ACCEPTED!****

Holy Name Parish, Ebensburg is inviting parishes to their upcoming speaker series with Fr. David Michael Moses on Wednesday, **September 4 at 7:00PM**. Fr. David is from the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston and is very popular on social media and works extensively for Pro-Life Efforts.

On **September 23 and 24 at 7:00PM**, Fr. Dan Reehil from the Diocese of Nashville will be giving a parish mission. He was a former Wall Street banker who had an amazing reversion experience back to the Catholic Church. He is now the exorcist for the Diocese of Nashville. On **Monday, October 7 at 7:00PM** Jessica Cox will be giving a talk on her Catholic Faith. This remarkable woman is a motivational speaker, martial artist, and airplane pilot, and she does all this with no arms.

Please mark your calendars now and take part in these three missions.

DO YOU BELIEVE IN MIRACLES?

Tim Francis, a national speaker out of Fort Worth, Texas, who gives parish missions on Eucharistic Miracles and how the science has led people to faith, will be speaking at **Saint John Gualbert Cathedral on Saturday, September 14th** following the 6 PM Mass from 7:30-10:00 PM and Sunday, September 15th following the 5 PM Mass from 6:30-9:00 PM. He will also be speaking on Monday, September 16th from 6:00-8:30 PM at Saint Francis University in the Immaculate Conception Chapel.

**St Matthew's Anglican Church
 Spaghetti Dinner/ Basket Party
 Saturday, Sept 7th
 1-3PM**



St Therese Social Hall
 Includes Spaghetti Dinner
 and 25 Basket Tickets cost
 \$10.00. Soft walk-through Friday 4-7 Sept 6th
 For tickets/information call Arlene 814-244-3863 or Denny 814-322-6631

ABORTION: "Among the vulnerable for whom the Church wishes to care with particular love and concern are unborn children, the most defenseless and innocent among us. Nowadays efforts are made to deny them their human dignity and to do with them whatever one pleases, taking their lives and passing laws preventing anyone from standing in the way of this...Precisely because this involves the internal consistency of our message about the value of the human person, the Church cannot be expected to change her position on this question...It is not 'progressive' to try to resolve problems by eliminating a human life Pope Francis