

# St. Therese Catholic Church

1409 6th Street 77630  
 Email: sttherese1350@att.net

Phone: (409) 883-3783  
 Child Abuse Hotline: 1-800-252-5400

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## Pastoral Team:

**Rev. Donatus Mgbeajuo, MSP**

Email: donachrisneo@yahoo.com  
 Contact information: cell (409) 454-3958  
 Rectory: (409) 238-3001  
 Deacon Julian Richard (409) 221-2743  
 Deacon Hazen Kenney (512) 791-0847

Office Hours: Tuesday thru Thursday  
 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.



## The 6th Sunday of Easter May 21, 2017

**"I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate"**

### Eucharistic Celebration

#### Weekends:

Saturday Vigil: 4:00 p.m.  
 Sunday: 9:00 a.m.

#### Reconciliation

Saturdays: 3:20 p.m. 3:55 p.m.

#### Infant Baptism:

Please contact the pastor two (2) months in advance

#### Weekdays:

Tuesday-Friday 8:00 a.m.  
 Thursday: Faith Program 5:30 p.m.

#### Adoration

Fridays: 6 p.m.

#### Adoration & Benediction

1st Friday each month 6p.m.-7p.m.

#### Marriage:

Please call Rectory six (6) months prior to proposed date

#### SECRETARY

Cindy Hampton (409) 882-0935

#### PARISH COUNCIL

Joe Ware, Chairman 886-5331  
 Adam Jacobs, Vice Chairman 883-9688  
 Dayna Smith, Secretary 988-6705  
 P.R.O., Leo Jackson 886-9692  
 Horace Broussard 883-7937  
 Shirley Ray 779-9922  
 Martin Feathers 882-4186  
 Albert Hebert, Jr. 746-2627  
 Freda Guillory 882-1768  
 Lanny DeLarue 330-0791  
 John King 920-2448

#### DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Sanja Popillion (409) 670-0808

#### FINANCE COUNCIL

Andre Robertson 882-0012  
 Janice Semien 883-7126  
 Tina Kindle 238-4447  
 Robert Gobert (504) 232-5640

### READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday May 21 Acts 8:5-8, 14-17 Ps 66:1-3, 4-5, 6-7, 16, 20  
 1 Pt 3:15-18 Jn 14:15-21  
 Monday May 22 Acts 16:11-15 Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a & 9b  
 Jn 15:26-16:4a  
 Tuesday May 23 Acts 16:22-34 Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 7c-8  
 Jn 16:5-11  
 Wednesday May 24 Acts 17:15, 22-18:1 Ps 148:1-2, 11-12, 13, 14  
 Jn 16:12-15  
 Thursday May 25 Acts 18:1-8 Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 Jn 16:16-20  
 or 1 Cor 2:10b-16 Ps 119:9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14  
 Mt 7:21-29  
 Friday May 26 Acts 18:9-18 Ps 47:2-3, 4-5, 6-7  
 Jn 16:20-23  
 Saturday May 27 Acts 18:23-28 Ps 47:2-3, 8-9, 10  
 Jn 16:23b-28

### PRAY FOR THE HOMEBOUND

John Abram  
 Mary Brown  
 Mary Crossley  
 David Jayce Carey  
 Courtney Chavis  
 Therese Ferguson  
 Hollis Fain  
 Joe B. Forward  
 Theresa Garrett  
 Anna Garrick  
 Elias Gobert  
 James Mims  
 John Richard, Sr.  
 Alma G Thibodeaux  
 Alma C Thibodeaux  
 Sammie Williams



### May Birthday List Happy Birthday to::

Cecilia Davis 3  
 William Davis 10  
 John King 12  
 Ronald Warnell 21  
 Mary Alexander 22  
 Dorothy Broussard 22  
 Ashley Anderson 30  
 Marva Hebert 31  
 Herman Richard 31

### Happy Anniversary

Fred & Peggy Green 8th

### MINISTRIES FOR THE WEEKEND HOSPITALITY

Saturday: Richard Scott, Shirley Allison, Rose Davis & Walter Davis

Sunday: Jo'Nire Pete, Alex Gamble, Candace Brown

### ANNOUNCER & LECTORS:

Saturday: A: Mona Richard L: Phyllis Thibodeaux & Felicia Richard

Sunday: A: Reagan Pitre L: William Pitre & Hannah Allison

### ALTAR SERVER:

Saturday: Reagan Pitre & William Pitre  
 Sunday: D'Ana Williams

### MINISTERS OF COMMUNION:

Saturday Russell Bottley & Gloria Richard  
 Sunday: Mr. & Mrs. Adam Jacobs

**Novena to the Holy Spirit begins on Ascension Thursday, May 25, 2017 copies of the novena are available at the rear of the church.**

### PRAY FOR THE SICK

James Arceneaux  
 Mary Feathers  
 Alberta Fontenot  
 Frances Freeman  
 Debra Glaude  
 Margaret Green  
 Myrtle Guillory  
 Marvin Hampton  
 Celestine Johnson  
 Calvin Johnson  
 Stacy Johnson  
 Rose Lee Johnson  
 Lakeisha Guidry-Jones  
 Leothus Jones  
 Raffelitta Jonea Lee  
 John Milton  
 Ruby Milton  
 Mr. & Mrs. Mace  
 Bettye Odom  
 Clayona Pilette  
 Brushelle Scott  
 Robert Simmons  
 Joe Ware

To all our sick and homebound **THANK YOU** so much for your unwavering commitment and contributions to your parish. To better serve everyone Fr. Donatus is available to visit **ALL** parishioners at the appointed time. However, Fr. Donatus has reserved Friday's for the homebound

### MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday May 9:00 a.m. E-Rita Delahoussaye & Wayne Josephine Durio requested by Maxie & Pat Durio

Monday May No Mass

Tuesday May 8:00 a.m. +

Wednesday May 8:00 a.m.+

Thursday May 8:00 a.m. & 6:00 p.m. Holy Day The Ascension of the Lord

Friday May 8:00 a.m. & 6:00 pm Adoration

Saturday May 4:00 p.m. +

(N.B. You can request Mass to be offered for you/ your loves one, or the deceased.. Speak with the Pastor or call the office to schedule).

### Bishop Faith Appeal

Goal : \$25,000.

**It is the time of year again where we to begin the work on our BFA goal., and for those of us that has not yet pledged please do so and for those of us that has Thank You so much. For any information please contact Robert Gobert at (504) 232-5640 or Shirley Ray (409) 779-9922. We are look forward to the continued growth of our parish**

### Attendance

Saturday 43 Sunday 80

### Weekend Collection

Deductible Non-Deductible

Mail In \$ 40.00  
 Loose \$ 107.00  
 Saturday \$ 1,428.00  
 Sunday \$ 1,908.00

**Total Deposit \$ 3,483.00**

Expenses: Office of Bmt Diocese , catherdraticum <\$ 1,657.07>  
 Multi-parish acct <\$ 501.37> health retire ins <\$ 191.99>  
 Liturgy supplies <\$ 133.47>

# SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

## Enthusiasm

Enthusiasm is a wonderful word derived from a Greek word that refers to being inspired by God. Today, the word has come on hard times. Enthusiasm is often identified as an over-exuberant, unmoored emotion. Let us return to the original meaning of enthusiasm: the kind that is moored to and inspired by God, the kind that brings poise and buoyancy.

FIRST READING: Acts 8:5-8, 14-17    RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Psalm 66:1-3, 4-5, 6-7, 16, 20  
SECOND READING: 1 Peter 3:15-18    GOSPEL: John 14:15-21

## Comment

In today's Gospel, Jesus promises the Spirit. His words are part of the lengthy Last Supper discourse, which only John records. We can assume that as John assembled his Gospel, he chose to set these words of Jesus at the Last Supper. Their placement there heightens their importance and invites us to pay close attention. The discourse of Jesus becomes clearer after his death and resurrection. The Apostles needed time to absorb all that they had heard and seen. John goes out of his way to remind us of this at the end of his Gospel where he muses that if he were to write of everything Jesus did, there wouldn't be enough books in the world to contain what could be written (John 21:25).

But John does remember and record all we need. Through the inspiration of the Spirit, he writes about Jesus' promise of the Holy Spirit. The dreaded specter of the apostles losing Jesus was enough to sink them. The ominous signs of his demise were too fearful to think about. In the dark night that precedes the darker Good Friday, Jesus utters words of comfort. He promises to give his followers a Paraclete—a helper, advocate, or mediator. Jesus continues to assure the apostles that where the Paraclete is, there Jesus will be also. They will see this on the day he returns—the day of his resurrection, but also on that final day at the end of time.

Jesus' words here must be accepted by the apostles. It will take time for them to realize what Jesus means and how they are to respond. Jesus calls them to obedience. To obey means to listen deeply and to heed all he has commanded. Obedience is not slavish or uninformed. It is deeply felt and acted on.

The second reading gives us a string of successes. The Acts of the Apostles lists in headline fashion the miracles and marvels that are occurring throughout Galilee and Samaria. We read of the work of the deacon Philip in Samaria and of Peter and John. We detect an ordering of ministries. Philip the deacon baptizes; Peter and John journey from Galilee to Samaria to confer the Holy Spirit. God's grace is abundant, marvels abound; joy reaches a fever pitch. Clearly, the promised Spirit of God sent by Jesus is everywhere and everywhere effective. Clearly, the generosity of God is received by a grateful people.

We have good reason to imagine Peter as a mercurial kind of person. His denials of Jesus are threefold; his sorrow is deep. We remember stories of him: he does not want Jesus to wash his feet; then he wants Jesus to bathe him entirely. He leaps before he looks. He speaks before he thinks.

Nonetheless, Peter is the one Jesus chose to lead the rest. The Acts of the Apostles clearly depicts him as the leader. In the excerpt from his first letter that is today's second reading, we hear the sweet voice of reason. In this reading, he is anything but mercurial. This letter is one of the "catholic epistles." It is not addressed to a specific person or church as many of the epistles of the Christian Scriptures are. Scholars tell us that this letter was composed about 64 A.D. and was sent from Rome to Gentile Christians residing in northeast Asia Minor. These Christians were a beleaguered minority. The persecution they experienced was not the red hot kind. It was the cool and cruel kind that shunned, ostracized, teased. This kind of behavior can wear one down. Peter knows this, and offers sage, seasoned, comforting advice to his flock. He urges the sweet side of enthusiasm. He asks a lot of these Christians. He encourages inner strength, gentleness of manner and speech. He requests forbearance rather than retaliation. He asks of them an amazing resilience of soul drawn directly from their veneration of Christ, who is the Lord whom they are called to imitate.

## Reflection

The promised Paraclete is as strongly among us as on the first day. The Church is as surely guided. It is incumbent upon us to deepen our awareness of the abiding Spirit. It falls to us during this Easter time to cultivate a deepening sense of that presence and then to act from that deep source. No other source will do for Christians. It is our vocation to follow.

## \*\*\*Baptism\*\*\*

To *All* parishioners, if you have anyone that is a potential candidate for baptism please pick up a copy of the application from the parish office, to be completed by the parents. Fr. Donatus will meet with Parents and potential Catholic God parents please call and schedule an appointment for your child's baptism. Baptism will be held at ST. Therese June 25, 2017 9:00 AM.

## Have YOU Been Listening to God's Call? Are You Open to A Leadership Role at St. Therese?

By now YOU are probably very aware that your parish is working toward being one family in Christ. We are praying that YOU are open to the possibility of presenting yourself for leadership in a new and exciting way and that YOU have been listening to hear God's call through the voices of our pastor, your fellow parishioners and the larger, local Church of Southeast Texas. This is the time for YOU to see how God has gifted YOU and how YOU will come to this new leadership call.

### Two of the important gifts for a parishioner to bring to this challenge are

The gift of **listening** – the ability to be present for another and to understanding their hopes, needs and anxieties without judgment.

The gift of **openness** – the ability to set aside personal opinion or past experience for a time in order to explore new ideas, methods, and solutions.

**How does a person know if he/she is gifted in this way?** The first step is prayer. Then reflect on these:

**Has my professional or personal life called me to be a good listener?** Am I a counselor, social worker, therapist? Have I worked in customer service? Have I been a sponsor in a 12 step recovery program? Have I been a volunteer for Elijah's Place or some other grief support group? Have I worked on a suicide, battered woman or runaway hotline? Have I had special training in listening skills? Am I able to help another person clarify his/her position so that he/she is understood by a larger group? **Can I withhold my thoughts long enough so that another person can express his/her thoughts?** Can I let another speak without interrupting? **Can I just be present without judgment or opinion?**

**Am I open and kind?** Am I creative person who looks for new ways of doing things? Do I like new methods, technology? Do I travel, explore other cultures, new cuisines? Do I enjoy brainstorming as a way to find solutions? Am I flexible? Do my friends come from various socio-economic levels? Am I able to see both sides of an argument or political position? Do I try to get information before reaching a conclusion on a political controversy or community issue? Am I an artist, a musician, a writer? **Am I able to see and value people's differences? Am I a bridge-builder?**

Not every parishioner will have all of the gifts needed for this new challenge. However, with the Holy Spirit's guidance, together we will reflect these gifts as a unit. All that God is asking of YOU at this time is to consider your own gifts in light of what is needed. Often times, we do not see our own gifts. Now is a good time to carefully LISTEN to the nice things other people say to you about YOU. God may be pointing out your gifts through the positive words of others. Be

### \*\*\*Exciting News\*\*\*

*St Therese now has Online-Giving  
and Online Bishop Faith Appeal*

For your convenience you can make your pledges and pay your tithe on-line. Simply go to our website at [stthereseorangetx.org](http://stthereseorangetx.org) click on the option you need, create you on profile and start giving today!

### NOVENA PRAYER TO ST. THERESE—THE LITTLE FLOWER

St. Therese, beloved friend, you promised to spend your time in heaven doing good upon the earth. WE come before you in our need. We believe that you listen to us and approach God for and with us. You are love in the heart of the God. Please accept these petitions, hopes, needs and dreams that I list below (pause).

Please present them to our loving Father so that God may do what is best for us, for our loved ones, and for the fulfillment of God's Kingdom.

Continue your shower of roses in our lives. We ask you, dear friend with the bold confidence and loving care. We make this prayerful petition in the name of Jesus and through the power of his Spirit. **AMEN.**

There is one more Formation Day for Lectors this fiscal year: Monday, June 5 (Part 1 of 2 parts) and Thursday, June 8 (Part 2 of the 2 parts). Catholic Pastoral Center, 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM. Bmt, TX

Very important: that all registrations go through the Office of Worship, no later than one week prior to the event.

### \*\*\*Thank You Everyone\*\*\*

|                |        |                  |        |
|----------------|--------|------------------|--------|
| Peter Roberson | \$500. | Shirley Ray      | \$500. |
| Adam Jacobs    | \$100. | Leon Cross       | \$100. |
| John Judge     | \$100. | Andre Robertson  | \$100. |
| Albert Hebert  | \$100. | Cindy Hampton    | \$100. |
| Marina Taylor  | \$ 50. | Patricia LeBlanc | \$ 50. |
| Cecile Davis   | \$ 50. | Marisa Kirt      | \$ 50. |

*Cost of Chalice W/Bowl Paten, 2-Common Cups, Ciborium & Candle Burner \$ 1,660.55*

**The balance , \$230 will be applied to the cost of an alter cloth**

St. Therese is having a bake sale fundraiser June 3, after the 4 pm mass. We are asking for donations of homemade cakes and pies, anyone that wants to help in any way is welcome to do so. Contact any parish council member or call the parish office for more details want to participate is welcome.