

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

**Sun. Feb 18** - Gn 9:8-15 Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 1 Pt 3:18-22 Mk 1:12-15

**Mon. Feb 19** - Lv 19:1-2, 11-18 Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15 Mt 25:31-46

**Tues. Feb 20** - Is 55:10-11 Ps 34:4-5, 6-7, 16-17, 18-19 Mt 6:7-15

**Wed. Feb 21** - Jon 3:1-10 Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19 Lk 11:29-32 or 2 Tm 4:1-5 Ps 16:1-2, 5, 7-8, 11 Jn 15:1-8

**Thurs. Feb 22** - 1 Pt 5:1-4 Ps 23:1-3a, 4, 5, 6 Mt 16:13-19

**Fri. Feb 23** - Ez 18:21-28 Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-7a, 7bc-8 Mt 5:20-26 or Rv 2:8-11 Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 & 8ab, 16bc & 17 Jn 15:18-21

**Sat. Feb 24** - Dt 26:16-19 Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8 Mt 5:43-48

**February Birthday List**

Happy Birthday to:

Diane Hebert 1  
 Albert Thibodeaux 1  
 Ryland Blackwell 3  
 Santana Robertson 5  
 Stacy Johnson 5  
 Gerald Richard 6  
 Jada Semien 9  
 Ralph Wilkes 11  
 Athena Jefferson 13  
 Italia Green 14  
 Leo Jackson 18  
 Ryasian Daughtery 22  
 Ariel Anderson 27

Happy Anniversary

Albert & Phyllis Thibodeaux 6th

**MINISTRIES FOR THE WEEKEND**

HOSPITALITY

Saturday: Shirley Allison, Rose Davis  
 Walter Davis, Willie Olivier

Sunday: Youth

ANNOUNCER & LECTORS:

Saturday: A: Mona Richard  
 L: Freda Guillory & Leo Jackson  
 Sunday: A: Youth  
 L: Youth

ALTAR SERVER:

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

MINISTERS OF COMMUNION:

Saturday Cecilia Davis &  
 Gail Jefferson  
 Sunday: Mr. & Mrs. Adam Jacobs

**MASS INTENTIONS**

**During the Lent Season Mass will be held every morning at 7:00am**

**Sunday, Feb. 4, 2018 9:00 am Mass**

**Monday Feb. 19, 2018 7:00 am MASS**

Tuesday, Feb. 20, 7:00 am & 6:00 pm

Wednesday, Feb. 21, 7:00 & 6:00 pm

Thursday, Feb. 22, 7:00 am & 6:00 pm

**Friday, Feb. 23, 7:00 am & 5:00 pm & 6:00 pm**

**Exposition & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament & Service**

Saturday, Feb. 24, 2018 7:00 am  
 3:20 - 3:55 Reconciliation  
 4:00 p.m. Mass

(N.B. You can request Mass to be offered for you/your love ones, or any deceased person. Speak with the Pastor or call the office to schedule your mass intention).

*We are encouraged this Lenten season to drink BEER*

*Bible* - read the word of God

*Empathy* - have compassion for one another

*Eucharist* - accept him into your life

*Reconciliation* - reconcile ourselves to God

**COORNATORS OF MINISTRIES**

**Bishop Faith Appeal** - Robert Gobert

**Bereavement Committee** - Rose Bottley

**Donut Sunday's** - Freda Guillory\*  
 Donuts and coffee in the Education Building 1st, 3rd & 4th Sunday of each month.

**Extraordinary Minister of Communion** - Shirley Ray

**Finance** - Andre' Robertson \* finance meetings are held every 2nd Wednesday of each month.

**Fund Rising** - Walter Davis

**Hospitality/Ushers** - Rose Davis

**Lectors** - Gary Mims

**Life Center** - Adam Jacobs

**Plumbing** - Joe Fontenot

**Mission & Retreat** - Cecilia Davis

**Music Director** - George Alexander \*  
 choir rehearsal's are every Tuesday at 6:30 pm

**Pastoral Council** meetings held every 3rd Wednesday of each month.

**Socials** - Knights of Peter Clever & Ladies Auxiliary \* Parish Luncheon, the second Sunday of each month.

**Youth** - Felicia Richard

**Stewardship**-Wayne Sparrow

**1st Friday of each month Fr. Donatus has 11 am Mass at Orange Villa located on 3rd Street. There will be NO evening Mass that day, adoration only, everyone is invited to come.**

*Attendance*

*Saturday: 21 Sunday: 47*

*Weekend Collection*

Mail In \$ 50.00  
 Dio. Of Bmt \$ 26.00  
 Missals \$ 10.00  
 Loose \$ 22.00  
 Saturday \$ 873.00  
 Sunday \$1,650.00

**Total Deposit \$ 2,597.00**

**Expenses:** Diocese of Bmt <\$ 2,157.45>  
 Latin America <\$ 117.00>  
 spectrum <\$ 112.30>



**St. Therese Catholic Church**

*Served by The Missionary Society of St. Paul from Nigeria since 2000*

1409 6th Street 77630  
 Email: sttherese1350@yahoo.com

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

Fax: (409) 883-4918  
 Website: stthereseorangetx.org

**Pastoral Team:**

**Rev. Donatus Mgbajuo, MSP**

Email: donachrisneo@yahoo.com  
 Contact information: cell (409) 454-3958  
 Rectory: (409) 920-4007  
 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.**



**1st Sunday of Lent**

**February 18, 2018**

**Jesus was "tempted by Satan"**

**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 6:00 p.m.

**Adoration & Benediction**

1st Friday each month 5p.m.-6:30p.m.

**Marriage:**

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

**SECRETARY**

Cindy Hampton (409) 882-0935

**PARISH COUNCIL**

Richard Scott, Chairman 779-7587  
 Rose Davis, Vice Chairman 883-0762  
 Steven Allison, Secretary 313-0586  
 Cecilia Davis 920-1136  
 Rose Bottley 886-1525  
 Charlis D. Rogers 988-8719  
 Adam Jacobs 883-9688  
 Albert Hebert III 746-2627

**MAINTENANCE & GROUNDS**

Joe Ware 886-5331

**DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

Sanja Popillion (409) 670-0808

**FINANCE COUNCIL**

Andre Robertson 882-0012  
 Robert Gobert (504) 232-5640  
 Sheila Arnold 313-2062  
 Janice Semien 883-7126  
 Tina Kindle 238-4447

# FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

## For a Change

We are reminded today that the trouble has passed. The flood waters have receded and new plants are growing. A rainbow spans the sky and connects heaven and the cleansed and renewed earth. God is present in covenant and promise. This knowledge can hold us fast and set us moving all at once. This is the beginning of Lent. It helps a lot to see the end or purpose of Lent, and this Sunday gives us the boost we need.

**FIRST READING: Genesis 9:8-15    RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Psalm 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9**  
**SECOND READING: 1 Peter 3:18-22    GOSPEL: Mark 1:12-15**

## Comment

The opening reading from Genesis is surely among the most often told and well-loved. But, for all its charm and easy adaptation for children, the story of Noah carries deep meanings for mature people of faith. This reading tells the story of God's first covenant with the chosen people. The covenant comes as something of a surprise. It is not just a small arrangement between God and Noah's little family. This covenant is explicit, unilateral, and universal. What a great new beginning! This covenant, unbidden and unexpected, is made with Noah after the known world had drowned itself in its own willfulness and sinfulness.

Noah, a just and good man, escaped with his family and a pair of each living creature. Rarely must one begin all over again, but this seems to be the lot of Noah—and of God, too. The reseeded world is the story of a second chance given by a patient God to a faithful man and his family, and alas, his menagerie. The ark floating on the water is a miniature, saved world. Everything that is needed is present.

The first letter of Peter, which is our second reading this Sunday, refers to the story of Noah and uses it to illustrate a new understanding of water in salvation history. Noah's small and sufficient ark escaped "through the water." Peter sees this image of water not as a killing deluge, but as water that supports and sustains. The water to which Peter refers is the water of salvation, not of death.

The Gospel proclamation is so brief we almost miss it. Mark's Gospel assumes a world view that sees Jesus as the Savior, Son of God, and bearer of the Holy Spirit. This Spirit drives Jesus into the waterless desert, where he encounters and no doubt struggles with Satan. This struggle is a cameo of his entire mission of struggling with and finally overcoming the power of evil. For forty days, that is, for a sufficient time, Jesus takes on and subdues the power of evil.

Jesus then emerges, almost explodes, into the unsuspecting and relatively tranquil world of Palestine. He comes among a people going about their daily business and announces a time of fulfillment. A fresh, new day is upon us, he announces. God is here and seeks our repentance and our faith.

## Reflection

Jesus tells the people of his homeland that the reign of God is at hand. That is the main issue. He doesn't first remind them of their destructive ways. Jesus is definitely not the hell-and-brimstone preacher the self-righteous seem to think most of us deserve to hear. Jesus does not spend his time bawling us out, as it were. Rather, he first sets before us promise and fullness, and only then does he ask us to take it in and take on the work of conversion.

The reign of God is at hand, and we need only to open our hands to seize it. Our hands cannot be shaped to fists, and though a kind of dying must occur, we need not face it with white-knuckle determination, as if everything depended on us. We begin well when we focus on what is to be gained, not on what is to be given up. Only by focusing on the end of the lenten journey—Easter—will we be able to muster the courage and persistence needed for renunciation and repentance. All of the readings insist on this: God's promise to Noah and to the whole earth; Peter's reminder that we are saved through the baptismal waters; and finally, Jesus' announcement of the reign of God among us.

### PRAY FOR THE HOMEBOUND

John Abram  
 Mary Brown  
 Mary Crossley  
 David Jayce Carey  
 Courtney Chavis  
 Therese Ferguson  
 Hollis Fain  
 Joe B. Forward  
 Ella Mae Garrett  
 Anna Garrick  
 Beatrice Guillory  
 Mark Mitchell Jr.  
 James Mims  
 Westley Popillion  
 John Richard, Sr.  
 Alma C Thibodeaux



### PRAY FOR THE SICK

James Arceneaux  
 Mable Durio  
 Alberta Fontenot  
 Frances Freeman  
 Debra Glaude  
 Margaret Green  
 Peggy Green  
 Myrtle Guillory  
 Rena Mae Jenkins  
 Celestine Johnson  
 Calvin Johnson  
 Stacy Johnson  
 Rose Lee Johnson  
 Lakeisha Guidry-Jones  
 Leothus Jones  
 John Milton  
 Ruby Milton  
 Bettye Odom  
 Clayona Pilette  
 Doris Robertson  
 Brushelle Scott  
 Richard Scott  
 Robert Simmons  
 Mary Ware  
 Joe Ware

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



**Mrs. Doris Gans -**  
 The wife of Mr. Franklin Gans. Also a mother, grandmother and a long serving member of St. Therese Parish and Retired Math Teacher in West Orange-Stark School district.

Mrs. Gans will be this week's Sunday, February 18, 2018 speaker. She will give us some insight to her own history, which is befitting for this month. Our hope is that by sharing her story it may encourage others in their own lives, as many as it did when she was an educator. We believe that Mrs. Gans contribution to education is great, and we look forward to hearing her speak.

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

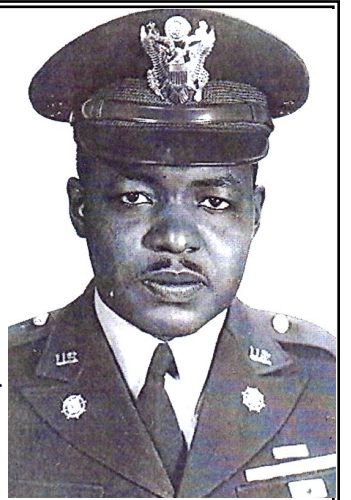
St. Therese, beloved friend, you promised to spend your time in heaven doing good upon the earth. WE come before you in our need. We believe that you listen to us and approach God for and with us. You are love in the heart of the God. Please accept these petitions, hopes, needs and dreams that I list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

### \*\*\*The Conversion Experience\*\*\*

February is Black History Month and each weekend we will have a speaker from our parish to speak at every mass. Also, we gladly announce that St. Therese will be closing out the month with "Conversion Experience" Pastors from other churches as well as Fr. Donatus will speak to their own conversion for this program. The program will be held on February 26, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. in the Life Center. The festivities will have speakers, music and a light meal. This is a Parish activity, and we look forward to seeing everyone.

**Captain John King-** A Retired Captain of the Armed Forces. Mr. King joined St. Therese and entered the Catholic faith in July of 1973 and has since been a long serving member Mr. King is a past member of the Pastoral Council, Count Team and a past member of the Finance Council.



Mr. King will be this week's Saturday, February 17, 2018 speaker. We look forward to his story and so thankful for his service and willingness to serve. We believe that Mr. King was a great contributor to our Country and now to his Community and look forward to his story.

The African American Commission & African American Ministry  
 12th annual Feast of St. Katharine Drexel  
 Hosted by Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church,  
 Eucharistic Celebration 6:00 p.m.  
 Thursday, March 1, 2018  
 780 Porter Street, Beaumont, TX  
 Most Rev. Curtis Guillory, S.V.D., D.D.  
 Celebrant and Homilist. Priests of the diocese are invited to concelebrate.  
 A reception will follow immediately after the Mass in the parish hall. All are invited.

If you attended or graduated from Blessed Sacrament, Sacred Heart or St. Therese Catholic Schools and would like to share any mementos such as pictures, albums etc. please contact Wanda Thompson at 409-543-6180. In addition, if you would like to wear your school colors and be seated as a group, please call Tommie Marshall at 409-924-4333 by Monday, February 26 for seating arrangements. choir members from these churches are also invited to join choir rehearsal at Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church to provide music for the Eucharistic Celebration. Choir practice will be at 5:00 p.m. on Sunday, February 25, 2018 at Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church

### \*\*\*Fish Dinners\*\*\*

**Fried or Grilled Fish**  
**Seasoned Rice      Potato Salad**  
**Green Beans        Sliced Cake & Bread**

The cost of the dinners will be \$8.00 beginning Friday, February 16, 2018 until Friday, March 23, 2018 from 10 am to 2:30 pm in the parish life center Thank you in advance for your support.