

+ January 25, 2026 - Third Sunday in Ordinary Time +
St. Theresa of the Child Jesus Roman Catholic Church
1408 Easton Road, Hellertown, PA 18055



Come after
me, and I
will make
you fishers
of men

Matthew 4:19

Rev. John Anthony Hutta II, Parochial Administrator

Rev. Dr. John A. Krivak, Pastor Emeritus

Deacon David K. Rohner

Mass Schedule: Monday - Friday, 8:00am;
Saturday (Vigil Mass), 5:00 pm; Sunday, 8:00am, 9:30am, 11:00am

Eucharistic Adoration: Tuesdays, 6:00pm - 7:00pm; First Fridays, 12:00pm - 3:00pm

Confession: Saturdays, 4:00pm - 4:30pm; First Fridays, 12:00pm - 1:00pm



Let the Knights of Columbus make breakfast for you!

PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Sunday, January 25

in Friendship Hall after all Masses

Adults: \$9.00 / Youth (6-18): \$7.00 / Children (5 and under): Free

+ January 25, 2026 - Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Calendar, January 25 - February 1

Sunday, January 25

Pancake Breakfast after all Masses

Monday, January 26

Boy Scouts, Friendship Hll, 7:00pm

Tuesday, January 27

Eucharistic Adoration, Church,
6:00pm - 7:00pm

Wednesday, January 28

PREP 1-6, School Bldg., 4:30 - 5:45

Thursday, January 29

PREP 7, Friendship Hall, 6:00pm -
7:00pm

PREP 8, Parish Center, 6:30pm -
7:45pm

Choir practice, Church, 7:00pm -
8:30pm

Friday, January 30

St. Monica Ministry, Rectory LL,
10:00am - 11:30am

Saturday, January 31

“The Little Flowers,” Friendship Hall,
2:00pm - 4:00pm

Sunday, February 1

No meetings or events scheduled.

Mass Intentions, January 25 - February 1

Sunday, January 25 - 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

5:00pm (Sat.) - Patricia Horwath (Family)

8:00am - People of the Parish

9:30am - Edward Zubia (Lisa & Manny Muniz)

11:00am - Sally Chaffier (Joanna Long)

Monday, January 26 - St. Timothy and Titus, Bishops

8:00am - Barbara Marsh and family (Sister, Cecilia Christman)

Tuesday, January 27 - St. Angela Merici, Virgin

8:00am - Raymond Labuda (Joe Melin)

Wednesday, January 28 - St. Thomas Aquinas, Priest and Doctor of the Church

8:00am - Elaine and David Malanga (Kirby family)

Thursday, January 29 - Weekday

8:00am - John R. Sopko (Linda & Larry Dull)

Friday, January 30 - Weekday

8:00am - Ed Michaylira (St. Theresa sacristans)

Saturday, January 31 - St. John Bosco, Priest

No 8:00am

Sunday, February 1 - 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

5:00pm (Sat.) - Vanessa Czachor, Leonardo Giovanni, William Giovanini (Valcy Giovanini)

8:00am - People of the Parish

9:30am (PREP Mass) - Anna Cottone Covello (Children)

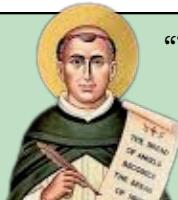
11:00am - Sally Chaffier (Avia & Teles families)

It's That Time of Year

Do you need a copy of your 2025 tax contribution statement? Please email sttheresacj@gmail.com

Any parishioner who does not have access to email may obtain a statement by calling the rectory: 610-838-7045.

Please deposit old blessed palms in the designated basket in the church vestibule. The palms will be burned and the ashes blessed and distributed on Ash Wednesday.



“Three things are necessary for the salvation of man: to know what he ought to believe; to know what he ought to desire; and to know what he ought to do.”

-St. Thomas Aquinas (Memorial, January 28)

Liturgical Ministers Schedule, January 31 / February 1 - 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass time	Lector	EEM	Altar server(s)
5:00pm Saturday	Dave Smith	Fran Vasko	Fran Vasko
8:00am Sunday	Joel Silverthorn	Deacon Dave	Tabor Siblings
9:30am Sunday	Joe Kazan	Joe Kazan	Lay Brothers
11:00am Sunday	Matt Kirby	Peggy Vietro	Ivo Kirby

Carriers of the Light: Our Vocation in Christ

Two weeks ago, on the Feast of the Epiphany, we reflected on the image of phosphors. Phosphors are substances that absorb light energy and then continue to glow even after the light source is removed. Their electrons are excited by the light and retain that energy, radiating it outward—especially in darkness. The very word *phosphor* comes from the Greek meaning “light-bearer” or “light-carrier.” This image beautifully captures the Christian vocation.

Jesus Christ is the Light of the World. We are not the Light—but we are called to receive His light, to be bathed in it, transformed by it, and then to carry that light into the darkness of the world. The more deeply we dwell in His presence, the more brightly we can reflect Him. What we receive from Christ is never meant to be hoarded; it is meant to be given away.

This theme resounds throughout today’s Scriptures. Isaiah speaks to a people overshadowed by fear and defeat—especially those in the regions of Zebulun and Naphtali—promising that a great light will scatter their gloom. The Psalm proclaims with confidence: “The Lord is my light and my salvation.” Saint Paul warns the Corinthians not to divide themselves according to human instruments, reminding them that all who preach and minister do so on behalf of God alone, who calls His people into the light of communion. And in the Gospel, Matthew shows us that Jesus Himself is the fulfillment of Isaiah’s prophecy—the Light who rises in Galilee and shines upon those dwelling in darkness.

This moment marks the beginning of Jesus’ public ministry. After His baptism, after forty days in the desert, after facing temptation, Jesus emerges preaching a single, foundational message:

“Repent, for the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand.” This call to *metanoia*—a change of heart and life—is the doorway into the Kingdom. From there flows everything else: the calling of disciples, the proclamation of the Good News, and the healing of the broken.

As we reflect on these readings, the theme of vocation comes sharply into focus. Vocation comes from the Latin *vocatio*—a calling. Jesus has a calling from His Abba-Father: to announce the Kingdom, to serve, to save, and ultimately to offer Himself on the Cross. The fishermen—Peter, Andrew, James, and John—are called to leave their nets and follow Him, becoming fishers of people, drawing others into the Reign of God through word and action.

For a long time, the word *vocation* was narrowly applied only to priests and religious. But the Church has recovered the ancient, apostolic understanding: by virtue of Baptism, every Christian has a vocation. Each of us shares in the ministry of Christ as priest, prophet, and king. Ministry means service—and it belongs to all.

Some are called to ordained or vowed life, dedicating themselves entirely to ecclesial ministry. But every Christian is called to full-time discipleship. Whether our daily work is in a church, a classroom, an office, a hospital, or a home, we are secular ministers—people who live in the world while serving within it. Our primary fields of mission are our families, workplaces, schools, and communities. It is there that we evangelize, sanctify, proclaim God’s love, and lead by humble service.

True service does not mean becoming a doormat, nor does it mean coercing others into belief. It means creating an atmosphere where others can encounter the Light—where hearts are drawn, not forced; invited, not threatened. We serve so that others may experience the Reign of Heaven breaking into their lives. At the heart of all this stands a profound truth: the Word of God is not merely spoken—it is a Person. “The Word became flesh and dwelt among us.” And He dwelt among us in order to die for us.

Every word Jesus speaks, every miracle He performs, every call He issues leads ultimately to Calvary. The Cross is the earthly fulfillment of His mission and the center of ours. Saint Paul reminds us that eloquence without the Cross is empty, even dangerous. The true depth of the Word of God is found only in the sacrifice of Christ, made present above all in the Eucharist, where the Word made Flesh continues to offer Himself so that we may enter into communion with the Father through the Son in the Holy Spirit. By embracing the Cross—through daily repentance, humble service, and faithful love—we enter the very life of God. How astonishing and humbling it is that God invites us into this mission. Yet He does. Our vocation is both a gift and a challenge: to live as reflections of Christ, carriers of His Light, glowing with the energy we receive from Him.

Personal Reflection / Action

When I hear the word *vocation*, what do I think of? • Do I recognize that I am called to share in the ministry of Jesus, the Light of the World? • How can I better reflect Christ’s light through concrete acts of service? • Who is most in need of my ministry today? This week?

May we praise the Light who shines in the darkness—and may that Light shine through us.

**The
St. Theresa
Good
Samaritan
Society**



offers short term assistance to residents of Hellertown and Lower Saucon Township. If you or someone you know needs help, the society can be reached confidentially at 610-509-5863. Monetary donations are also gratefully accepted. Please make checks payable to St. Theresa Church, with "FBO Good Samaritan Society" as the memo.

CASH BINGO

Sunday, February 15

Doors / kitchen open 11:30am;
Bingo starts 1:00pm.

St. Mary's Church, 122 Union St., Catasauqua
\$20 admission includes 15 games, seven specials,
and one jackpot round. The kitchen will be selling
your favorites. Please bring your daubers.

Email kim.stmarys122@gmail.com to reserve
your spot or call 610-264-0332.

"The Hail Mary" is a heartwarming and funny movie about a religious sister who convinces a handyman in need of redemption to coach a hapless boys football team. The movie is written and directed by Daniel Roebuck, a Bethlehem Catholic High School graduate and Hollywood film and TV actor.

The movie will be screened for public viewing on Saturday, February 21. Watch the movie and meet Roebuck and other cast members at the following times and locations:

11:00am, Frank Banko Alehouse Cinemas
at ArtsQuest in Bethlehem
3:00pm, Bethlehem Catholic High School;
7:00pm, the historic Roxy Theatre
in Northampton

View the trailer and buy tickets at
www.ticketsignup.io/thehailmarypremiere



Pasta Bowl Dinner

**Sponsored by
the Knights of Columbus**

**Saturday, February 7th, 2026
4:30pm - 6:30pm
Friendship Hall**

Dine-In or Take-Out

**Let us make dinner for you
before the "Big Game"!**

**Dine-In menu includes
Pasta, Meatballs, Salad,
Bread, Beverage
Make Your Own Sundae Bar**

**Take-Out Menu includes
Pasta, Meatballs, Salad,
Bread, and Cookies**

**Adults \$14 / Children (6-18) \$12
Children 5 and under: FREE
Family of four \$50**



Devotional Candles for the Week of January 25

Sanctuary Candle

Special Intentions
(offered by Linda Dull)

St. Theresa Candle

Theresa Rose Denino
(offered by Eleana Melega)

BVM Candle

Special Intention
(offered by Janice McKellin)

St. Joseph Candle

Special Intention
(offered by Barbara Bartholomew)



St. Michael the Archangel Schools **OPEN HOUSE**

MIDDLE SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

4121 Old Bethlehem Pike
Bethlehem, PA 18015

Sunday, January 25, 11:00am - 1:00pm

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

5040 St. Joseph Road
Coopersburg, PA 18036

Sunday, February 1, 12:00pm - 2:00pm

*Visit us for an on-site tour.
Kindergarten enrollment is now open!*

Seeking Employment?

If you are underemployed or unemployed or know someone who is, let Joseph's People help! Join us on Zoom on Tuesday, February 10 at 6:00pm. Our topic will be "Basics of Networking." We have helped thousands of people over the years and there is never a fee for our services. For information, please email Paul Licata at pauljosephlicata@gmail.com Learn more about the organization at www.josephspeople.org



**Our Lady has asked that we
pray the rosary every day.
HAVE YOU PRAYED
YOUR ROSARY TODAY?**



Eucharistic Adoration
Tuesday, January 27
6:00pm - 7:00pm

**Only 41 days until Bingo resumes!
The first Bingo of 2026 will take place
on Saturday, March 7.**

To commemorate the feast day of St. Brigid, the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians (LAOH) is honored to celebrate on Saturday, February 7th, at the 4:15 Mass at Immaculate Conception Church, 501 Ridge Ave, Allentown. In the generous spirit of St. Brigid, we will be accepting non-perishable food donations for a local Food Bank. We hope that you will join us! Membership in the AO/LAOH is open to practicing Catholics of Irish descent (birth or marriage). For more information, contact Maura O'Donnell Roszyk at lehighvalleyLAOHprep@gmail.com

Married Couples Catholic Date Night

Married couples are invited to an evening of connection, conversation hosted by the Diocesan Office of Marriage & Family Life.

Thursday, March 5
6:00pm-8:00 pm
Clover Hill Vineyards and Winery
9850 Newtown Road, Breinigsville

Couples will enjoy hors d'oeuvres and wine in a relaxed setting, along with an engaging presentation by Dr. Ray Guarendi, Catholic psychologist, author, and nationally known speaker on marriage and family life. Register at www.allentowndiocese.org/date-night

The collection total for January 18 is \$5802.
Thank you for your generosity!

Would you like to join St. Theresa Parish ?
Our Roman Catholic Family of Faith welcomes you!
Please call 610-838-7045 for information.

Baptism Preparation

Parents desiring Baptism for their child(ren) must attend a Baptism preparation session. The session will be offered on the first Monday of every month at 7:00pm. Registration is required at least two weeks prior to the start of the session. To register, please call the rectory at 610-838-7045.

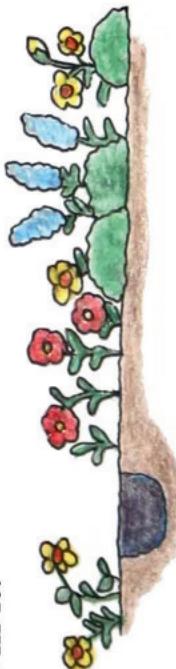
Jesus Tells us to Repent

Today we hear about Jesus beginning His mission of preaching and healing the sick. The very first thing He tells the people is that they should repent from their sins.

Why do we need to repent of our sins? Why don't we just stop thinking about the bad things we did and start trying to be good?

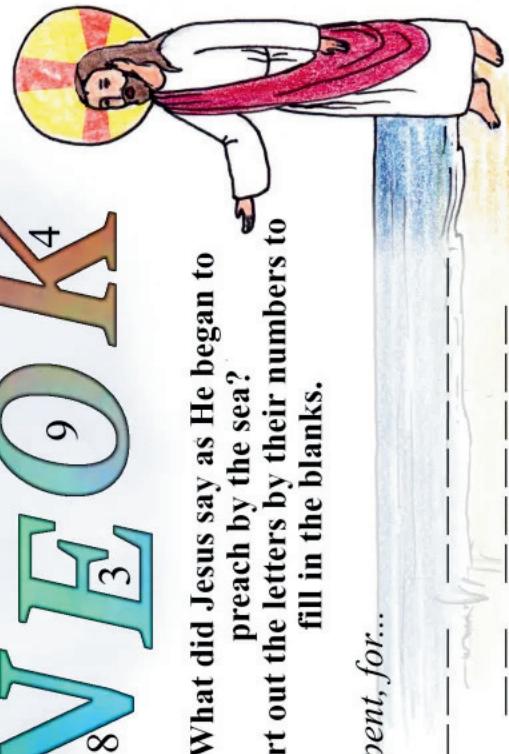
Well, pretend your soul is like a garden. When you sin, it's like making a big hole in the ground. You can't grow flowers in a hole, and someone might trip on it and make the hole bigger. That's what can happen with sins too- little sins can cause bigger ones.

When you are sorry for your sins and go to confession it's like filling in the holes and planting flowers where they used to be. Keep your soul like a good garden and make sure you don't have any holes in it!



The Kids' Bulletin

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time
January 25th, 2026



What did Jesus say as He began to preach by the sea?
Sort out the letters by their numbers to fill in the blanks.

Repent, for...

Answer to Unscramble puzzle on front: the Kingdom of Heaven, darkness, light, joy, harvest, yoke, smashed.

Saint Thomas Aquinas

January 28

Unscramble and Fill in the Blanks:

A Prophesy about Jesus...

THOMAS AQUINAS WAS BORN IN 1225 IN ITALY, THE SON OF A COUNT AND COUNTESS. AT THE AGE OF 5 HE WAS SENT TO STUDY WITH THE MONKS.



SO THOMAS WAS SENT TO BETTER SCHOOLS. HE SOON KNEW MORE THAN THE TEACHERS! *Thomas Aquinas*

So God became man without ceasing to be God.



FINALLY THEY LET HIM JOIN THE DOMINICANS. HE WAS SENT TO ROME TO STUDY UNDER ST. ALBERT THE GREAT.

He knows more than we do! Let's send him to Fr. Albert.



SAINT THOMAS WROTE A GREAT WORK CALLED THE SUMMA THEOLOGICA, WHICH EXPLAINS MANY THINGS ABOUT GOD, MAN AND CREATION. HE NEVER FINISHED IT, THOUGH, BECAUSE HE REALIZED HE COULD NOT SHOW IN WRITING HOW AWESOME GOD REALLY IS. SAINT THOMAS DIED AT AGE 49.



He people who walked in -- -- -- -- have seen a great light; upon those who dwelt in a land of gloom a -- -- -- -- has shone.

You have brought them abundant -- -- -- and great rejoicing as they rejoice before you as at the -- -- -- -- -- -- -- -- as people make merry when dividing spoils.

For the -- -- -- that burdened them, the pose on their shoulder, and the rod of their taskmaster you have -- -- -- -- -- -- -- -- as on the day at Midian.

Unscramble the words below to fill in the blanks in the prophesy from today's first reading.

OJY KOEY SSNAKDRE
GLTHI EHSMSAD ASEVHRT

This week at St. Theresa Preschool...



... we explored a Winter Wonderland!



We practiced the letter M...



...and learned about Martin Luther King Jr. and loving others as God teaches us.



St. Theresa Church and Preschool Gift Card Fundraiser

Earn cash for your parish church and preschool simply by purchasing gift cards for your favorite retailers. No selling, no taking orders, no sales pitches!

Fill out the form below and bring it with payment to the rectory between 9:00am and 2:30pm or deposit form and payment into the Sunday collection basket. You will be notified when your order is ready.

Name: _____

Phone: _____

I understand that neither St. Theresa Church nor St. Theresa Preschool is responsible for lost or stolen gift cards.

Merchant	Gift Card Denomination	# of Cards Desired	Total Cost
<u>Amazon</u> (1.70% rebate)	\$100		
<u>Amazon</u> (1.70% rebate)	\$25		
<u>Barnes & Noble</u> (8% rebate)	\$25		
<u>Barnes & Noble</u> (8% rebate)	\$10		
<u>Bath & Body Works</u> (12% rebate)	\$25		
<u>Bath & Body Works</u> (12% rebate)	\$10		
<u>Chipotle</u> (10% rebate)	\$10		
<u>CVS Pharmacy</u> (6% rebate)	\$25		
<u>Dick's Sporting Goods</u> (8% rebate)	\$25		
<u>Dunkin</u> (3.5% rebate)	\$10		
<u>Five Below</u> (2.5% rebate)	\$25		
<u>Fresh Grocer</u> (Valley Farm) (5% rebate)	\$50		
<u>Giant</u> (5% rebate)	\$100		
<u>Giant</u> (5% rebate)	\$50		
<u>Giant</u> (5% rebate)	\$25		
<u>Home Depot</u> (4% rebate)	\$25		
<u>Lowes</u> (4% rebate)	\$25		
<u>McDonald's</u> (2% rebate)	\$10		
<u>Old Navy</u> (14% rebate)	\$25		
<u>Panera Bread</u> (8% rebate)	\$25		
<u>Panera Bread</u> (8% rebate)	\$10		
<u>Red Robin</u> (8% rebate)	\$25		
<u>Rite Aid</u> (4% rebate)	\$25		
<u>Sheetz</u> (3% rebate)	\$25		
<u>Shop Rite</u> (4% rebate)	\$100		
<u>Shop Rite</u> (4% rebate)	\$25		
<u>Starbucks</u> (4.5% rebate)	\$10		
<u>Starbucks</u> (4.5% rebate)	\$25		
<u>Subway</u> (4.5% rebate)	\$10		
<u>Target</u> (2.5% rebate)	\$25		
<u>Target</u> (2.5% rebate)	\$10		
<u>TJ Maxx/Marshall's/HomeGoods</u> (7% rebate)	\$25		
<u>Walmart</u> (2.5% rebate)	\$25		
<u>Wawa</u> (1% rebate)	\$25		

Total number of gift cards: _____

Total amount due: _____

PLEASE NOTE: Gift cards are available ONLY for the merchants whose names appear on this form. Please do not request a gift card for any merchant not listed.

Please make checks payable to St. Theresa Church. Please handle your gift cards as you would cash!

RECTORY OFFICE: 610-838-7045

EMAIL: sttheresacj@gmail.com

WEBSITE: www.sttheresaotcj.org

PARISH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM (PREP)

EMAIL: PREPsttheresacj@gmail.com

PREP OFFICE: 610-838-1020

ST. THERESA OF THE CHILD JESUS PRESCHOOL

DIRECTOR: Mrs. Mary J. Morsbach

PRESCHOOL OFFICE: 610-838-8161

secretary@stsprehellertown.com

DIOCESAN VICTIM ASSISTANCE

DIOCESAN COORDINATOR: Ms. Wendy Krisak, M.A., NCC, LPC

VICTIM ASSISTANCE HOTLINE: 1-800-791-9209

EMAIL: victimsassistance@allentowndiocese.org

DIOCESAN SAFE ENVIRONMENT

DIOCESAN COORDINATOR: Pamela J. Russo, MSW, MS

TELEPHONE: 610-871-5200, ext. 2204

EMAIL: prusso@allentowndiocese.org

CATHOLIC BISHOP ABUSE REPORTING SERVICE

If you have an allegation of abuse against a bishop, please visit www.ReportBishopAbuse.org OR call 800-276-1562.

CONFESIONS

Saturdays, 4:00pm - 4:30pm; First Fridays, 12:00pm - 1:00pm.

DEVOTIONS

FIRST FRIDAYS: 7:30am recitation of prayers to the Sacred Heart followed by 8:00am Mass. Confessions are heard after Mass.

FIRST SATURDAYS: 7:30am rosary recitation followed by 8:00am Mass. Confessions are heard after Mass.

EUCARISTIC ADORATION: Tuesdays, 6:00pm - 7:00pm

ROSARY will be prayed every weekday in the church immediately following the 8:00am Mass.

ENROLLMENTS AND CANDLES

ST. THERESA MEMORIAL ENROLLMENT: For deceased loved ones, a monthly Mass is offered. Suggested offering \$25.

LITTLE FLOWER SOCIETY ENROLLMENT: To commemorate a special occasion, enrollees are remembered in a monthly Mass. Suggested offering \$15.

The Sanctuary, St. Joseph, Blessed Virgin Mary, and St. Theresa candles may be lighted for the deceased and for the intentions of the living. Suggested offering \$10.

HOSPITAL VISITS: On being admitted to any area hospital, please notify the Rectory Office and provide the hospital with our parish code, which is #177. Pastoral services cannot be obtained without the patient's explicit authorization.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK: To arrange for the Anointing of the Sick, please call 610-838-7045, day or night.

COMMUNION CALLS: To arrange for Holy Communion to be brought to the ill or homebound, please contact Bob Martin. Call (732)589-1168 or email Gman3700@aol.com.

WEDDINGS: Engaged couples should make arrangements at least one year in advance of their wedding date. A marriage preparation program must be completed at least six months before the wedding.

BAPTISMS: Parents who desire baptism for their child(ren) are asked to call the rectory at 610-838-7045.

ORDER OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION for ADULTS

Please call the rectory: 610-838-7045.

MUSIC DIRECTOR

Matthew Sweitzer (choirofthelittleflower@gmail.com)

LAY MINISTERS

Linda Dull (Linda.s.dull@gmail.com), Loretta Ulincy

PARISH SECRETARY

Isabella LaTassa, sttheresacj@gmail.com

FINANCE MANAGER

Susan Cavataio, finance.sttheresacj@gmail.com

BULLETIN EDITOR

Celeste Behe, bulletin.sttheresacj@gmail.com

GIRL SCOUTS/C.Y.O. - Hilary Jebitsch

HOLY NAME SOCIETY - Thomas Wiley

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS - Bernard Antonovich (knight14990@gmail.com)

BOY SCOUTS - Steven Moser (smoser@ptd.net), Curt Fitzgerald

LADIES' GUILD - Stephanie Velez (sdvelez@ptd.net)

PRAYER LINE - Colleen Fitzgerald (colleenfitz0@gmail.com), Fred Giordano (610-838-6490)

SENIORS GROUP - Nancy Mosko (610-360-3738)

GRIEF SUPPORT - Miriam Martin (610-442-0947), Ellie Fenner, Jacqueline Yelovich

SALESIAN LAY ASS'N FOR MARRIED & SINGLES (S.L.A.M.S.) - Tom Vresics (tvresics1@gmail.com)

I.H.M. COMPANIONS - Priscilla Dole (priscilla.dole@gmail.com)

FUNERAL LITURGY TEAM - Linda Dull (Linda.s.dull@gmail.com), Bob Martin, Miriam Martin

LECTORS/EUCARISTIC MINISTERS - Lisa Albitz (Lisa.Albitz@yahoo.com), Dr. Francis J. Vasko (Vasko@Kutztown.edu)

DIVINE MERCY CENACLE - Felicia Wallach (wallach20@rcn.com)

ALTAR SERVERS (Youth and Adult) - William Ripper (wjripper@gmail.com)

GOOD SAMARITAN SOCIETY - Steven Moser (smoser@ptd.net), (610-509-5863)

ST. MONICA MINISTRY - Celeste Behe (stmonicaministry27@gmail.com)

LAY CARMELITES, PROVINCE OF ST. ELIAS - Linda Dull (Linda.s.dull@gmail.com), Deacon Maurice Kelly