

St. Theresa of the Child Jesus Roman Catholic Church 1408 Easton Road, Hellertown, PA

Rev. John Anthony Hutta II, Parochial Administrator

Rev. Dr. John A. Krivak, Pastor Emeritus

Deacon David K. Rohner

Mass and Confession Schedule

Monday through Friday, 8:00am Mass First Saturday of the month, 8:00am Mass Saturday (Vigil Mass), 5:00 pm Sunday, 8:00am, 9:30am, 11:00am Masses Confessions heard Saturdays from 4:00pm -4:30pm, Thursdays from 6:00pm - 6:45pm, and on First Fridays from 12:00pm - 1:00pm

Our Mission Statement

We are a Roman Catholic Family of Faith, centered in the Real Presence of Our Lord Jesus Christ in the Holy Eucharist, faithful to the Church's teachings, bringing the Light of Christ to each other and to our Community. St. Theresa of the Child Jesus Parish is consecrated to Our Lady of Fatima and Mary, Mother of the Church.

Parish Calendar

Sunday, August 17

No meetings or events scheduled.

Monday, August 18

Preschool Faculty meeting, Friendship Hall, 9:00am - 12:00pm Boy Scouts, Friendship Hall, 7:00pm Divine Mercy Cenacle, Church, 7:00pm

Tuesday, August 19

Eucharistic Adoration, 6:00pm - 7:00pm. *No Confession.*

Wednesday, August 20

No meetings or events scheduled. No Eucharistic Adoration or Confession.

Thursday, August 21

Eucharistic Adoration 5:00pm - 7:00pm Confession, 6:00pm - 6:45pm Choir practice, Church, 7:00pm - 8:00pm "Meet the Teacher," Friendship Hall, 6:00pm - 8:00pm

Friday, August 22

Golden Sweepers, Church, 10:00am, followed by a social in the rectory

Saturday, August 23

No meetings or events scheduled.

Sunday, August 24

No meetings or events scheduled.

Mass Intentions: August 17 - August 24

Sunday, August 17 - Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

5:00pm (Sat.) - Deceased members of the KoC (Knights of Columbus)

8:00am - People of the Parish

9:30am - Mary Ann and Nelson Chegezy, 50th wedding anniversary

11:00am - John and Mary Ferencin (Jack & Minga Ferencin)

Monday, August 18 - Weekday

8:00am Mass - Margaret E. Falatek (Estate)

Tuesday, August 19 - St. John Eudes, Priest 8:00am - Werner Diehl (Jim & Flora Monticola)

Wednesday, August 20 - St. Bernard, Abbot and Doctor of the Church

8:00am - Renee Verzino (Boy Scout Troop 191)

Thursday, August 21 - St. Pius X, Pope 8:00am - Mark Vorndran (Wife, Diane)

Friday, August 22 - The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary

8:00am - Dr. Benedict and Carol Parenti (Cecelia Christman)

Saturday, August 23 - St. Rose of Lima, Virgin No 8:00am

Sunday, August 24 - Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

5:00pm (Sat.) - Joseph Holub (Terri Zakocs) 8:00am - Renee Verzino (Paul & Jane Burke)

9:30am - Vincent Pagano (Dean & Angela Reiman)

11:00am - Joseph Matacavage (Wife)



IN OBSERVANCE OF LABOR DAY, THE RECTORY WILL BE CLOSED FRIDAY, AUGUST 29 THROUGH TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2. THE RECTORY WILL REOPEN ON WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3.



LITURGICAL MINISTERS SCHEDULE FOR AUGUST 23/24- TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

MASS TIME	LECTOR	EEM	ALTAR SERVER
5:00pm Saturday	Dave Smith	Janice Sodemann	Ivo Kirby
8:00am Sunday	Isabella LaTassa	Isabella LaTassa	Isaac & Samuel Smith
9:30am Sunday	Paula Olexa	Paula Olexa	Lay Brothers
11:00am Sunday	Maria Jones	Deacon Dave	Greg Jones

+ FOOD FOR THOUGHT ON THE TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME +

Standing Firm in the Gospel

Many of us imagine that a faithful life in Christ should be marked by peace, unity, and joy—and in one sense, it is. But Jesus never promised that living the Gospel would be easy. In fact, He promised the opposite: that we would face resistance, misunderstanding, and even persecution when we take a stand for His truth.

This opposition often comes not from distant strangers, but from those closest to us—friends, co-workers, and even family members. I once spoke with someone who was deeply hurt because their own relatives turned against them for upholding certain Christian values. The pain was real, yet this person remained steadfast, choosing to love those who rejected them, while refusing to compromise the Gospel.

Today's readings give us both a warning and a promise:

- Jeremiah's Courage: The prophet is thrown into a cistern for proclaiming God's word of warning to Judah. The leaders wanted to silence him rather than face the truth. Yet, God raised up a rescuer who pulled Jeremiah from the pit.
- The Psalmist's Confidence: "He drew me out of the pit of destruction." Even in the darkest moments, God hears the cry of His faithful ones and comes to their aid.
- Christ's Example: In the Letter to the Hebrews, we see Jesus endure the Cross for our salvation. He accepted the cost of love and invites us to follow Him, even when the road is steep.
- The Gospel's Challenge: Jesus plainly tells His disciples that His message will sometimes cause division—even within families—because His truth confronts sin and calls for conversion.

Following Christ faithfully means:

- Loving God above all else—even more than family ties, opinions, or personal comfort.
- Speaking the truth in love—never to provoke, but always to lead others toward salvation.
- Trusting God's strength—knowing that opposition is not a sign of failure, but often a mark of authentic discipleship.
- Accepting the cost of discipleship—willing to bear the "thorns" that come with the beauty of the Gospel.

Practical ways to live this out:

- Pray for courage daily. Ask the Holy Spirit to strengthen you when the temptation to remain silent is strong.
- Choose love over bitterness. Even when rejected, respond with kindness—your witness may plant seeds for later conversion.
- Surround yourself with fellow believers. Like Jeremiah's rescuer, God often sends us others to lift us when we are weary.
- Stay rooted in Scripture and the Sacraments. They keep us grounded in truth and filled with grace.
- Be ready to lose comfort for Christ. Remember that eternal life is worth far more than temporary peace bought by compromise.

Jesus never promised a comfortable journey, but He promised His presence, His help, and His victory. When we encounter division or hostility, let us fix our eyes on Him—the One who endured for our sake. Like the psalmist, we can proclaim with confidence: "The Lord thinks of me; He is my help and my deliverer."

Let us stand firm, speak truth in love, and follow the Master-Teacher without fear. The road may be narrow, but it leads to everlasting joy.

Part-time Parish Custodian Position Available

St. Theresa of the Child Jesus Parish (1408 Easton Rd., Hellertown) is seeking a part-time custodian to assist with the general upkeep and maintenance of parish buildings and grounds.

Responsibilities include:

- General repairs / light maintenance of parish buildings (church, rectory, school, convent, parish center)
- Routine upkeep (e.g., changing lightbulbs, fixing leaky faucets, minor carpentry, etc.)
- Seasonal grounds work -(e.g., salting sidewalks, minor snow removal, sweeping, lawn care)
- Occasional coordination with contractors / vendors
- Assisting with parish event setup and occasional custodial support

Qualifications:

- •Experience in basic building maintenance and repair
- Ability to work independently and with others
- Trustworthy, dependable, respectful of parish environment
- Must pass background checks in accordance with Diocesan Safe Environment policies

Hours per week, 20 or fewer (with flexible scheduling). To apply, please contact the parish office at (610) 838-7045 or email **sttheresacj@gmail.com** with your interest and relevant experience.

The Golden Sweepers Ministry

The Golden Sweepers clean and care for God's house. Our humble efforts help to beautify the sacred spaces of our parish.

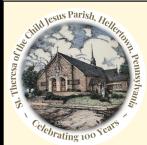
We will meet Friday, August 22 at 10:00am in the church.

Refreshments will be served post-cleaning so that you can relax and enjoy the company of fellow Sweepers. **Please join us!**Call the rectory at 610-838-7045.

The new Diocesan Cemetery Mausoleum Tongues as of Fire-Assumption of Mary Mausoleum

is now available at Holy Saviour Cemetery for the purchase of entombment rights in a single or companion crypt or interment in side-by-side niches for cremated remains. The Resurrection-Ascension Mausoleum is available at both Holy Saviour Cemetery (Bethlehem) and Resurrection Cemetery (Allentown).





In honor of the 100th anniversary of St. Theresa of the Child Jesus Parish, Bishop Alfred A. Schlert will celebrate Mass at St. Theresa's on Sunday, November 16th at 2:00pm. Following the Mass, a Centennial Dinner will be held at DeSales University to commemorate St. Theresa Parish's 100 years as a Family of Faith.

Have you made your reservation for the Centennial Dinner?

Tickets for the Centennial Dinner are \$50 per person. To reserve your ticket, please fill out the form below and drop it off at the rectory, along with a check made payable to St. Theresa Parish. The form and payment may also be deposited in the Sunday collection basket.

I would like to attend the St. Theresa of the Child Jesus Parish Centennial Celebration.			
Name			
Street Address			
Phone number (Please indicate whether landline or mobile.)			
Enclosed is my check made payable to St. Theresa Church. I understand that tickets are limited, and that early reservation is recommended.			

St. Theresa of the **Child Jesus Parish**



With praise and gratitude to Almighty God, the Parish of St. Theresa of the Child Iesus will honor its Patroness on Sunday, 16 November 2025, in celebration of our 100th year anniversary of the Catholic Church in Hellertown.

We prayerfully ask you to consider sponsorship of this event and/or placement of a congratulatory ad in the Commemorative Program to be published for this most significant occasion.

☆ Gold Sponsor \$1,500

Full-page ad in Commemorative program ~Name and logo recognition on our website and bulletin ~Media recognition

☆ Silver Sponsor \$1,000

Half-page ad in Commemorative program ~Name and logo recognition on our website and bulletin ~Media recognition

Bronze Sponsor \$750

Ouarter page ad in Commemorative program ~Name and logo recognition on our website and bulletin ~Media recognition

▶ Patron \$500

One-eighth of a page ad in Commemorative program ~Name and logo recognition on our website and bulletin ~Media recognition



bulletin.sttheresacj@gmail.com

🛖 Shout-out \$250 - Three lines in Commemorative program

Disciple Donation of choice - Name listed in Commemorative program

YES! We would like to sup	port this blessed Annive	rsary. Deadline: Friday, October 31.
Name / Company Name (to	o appear in program)	
City	State	Zip Code
Phone number (specify hor	me, landline, cell)	
Email address		
Make checks payable to St. T Checks may either be droppe	Theresa Church, with "100 ed into offertory basket or	th anniversary" in memo notation.
Camera ready art, (CMYK,)	bdf, tif, jpg, or png) file for	r ad submission may be emailed to:

Mass for the Memorial of St. Monica Most Rev. Alfred A. Schlert, Celebrant

Wednesday, August 27 St. Theresa Church

Mass begins at 6:00pm. A buffet dinner in Friendship Hall will follow the Mass.

Dinner tickets are \$10/person. Please call the rectory to register: 610-838-7045.

~ Sponsored by the St. Monica Ministry



Sunday, September 28 immediately following the 11:00am Mass

The Ladies Guild's annual Communion Luncheon in honor of our parish patroness, St. Theresa,

takes on a special meaning in this centennial year of St. Theresa Parish!

We will gather at Heintzelman's Carriage House, 326 Main Street Rear, Hellertown (behind the funeral home). The luncheon, catered by Bobbi from Springtown Inn, will consist of spring salad, roast beef, roast turkey, baked ziti, mashed potatoes, stuffing, and mixed vegetables. Dessert will be carrot cake plus an assortment of miniature delicacies.

Our speaker this year is St. Theresa parishioner Celeste Behe, who will give a lighthearted presentation titled, "Seven Great Things About Being Catholic." Music will be provided by Dominic Behe. Tickets are \$20 per person. This event is open to all parishioners and guests.

To reserve your spot please call Steph Velez at 610-248-8690 or Isabella LaTassa at the rectory: 610-838-7045. RSVP deadline is Monday, September 22. **Please note that no reservations will be accepted after the deadline.**

IN AND AROUND ST. THERESA PARISH

Fr. John Hutta leads a meeting of parish organization heads.



Parishioner Gerard Behe assists with parish cleanup.







At the St. Theresa
Parish picnic,
one parishioner
volunteered to
transport fellow
parishioners to the
picnic site....providing
"Mass Transit"
of a different kind.





Below, Deacon Dominic Mirenda and parish seminarian Owen Fitzgerald assist Fr. Hutta at Mass on the Memorial of St. Dominic, after which Fr. Hutta gives Deacon Merenda a special blessing.







PA March for Life

Monday, September 22, Harrisburg State Capitol

Let your voice be heard! Transportation to the March is being provided by Sacred Heart Parish, 1817 1st St, Bethlehem. The bus will depart at 8:00am and return approximately 4:00pm. Cost is \$20 per person.

For more information, contact Andrew: (484) 259-7740 or andrewazan3rd@rcn.com

Theology on Tap with Bishop Schlert

Thursday, September 11, 6:30pm-8:30pm Willow Haven General Store, 8150 Hamilton Blvd., Breinigsville

Young adults 18 - 35 are invited! Drinks and appetizers included. Register at allentowndiocese.flocknote.com/signup/219347

Restore: A Retreat for Women Healing from Betrayal Trauma

Thursday, November 13 - Sunday, November 16 St. Mary of Providence Center, 227 Isabella Rd, Elverson, PA

Fr. Allen Hoffa of the Diocese of Allentown will lead this retreat for women who have suffered from an intimate partner's infidelity or pornography use. Visit youaremadenew.com/restore-retreats-betrayal-trauma/

Men's Retreat Weekend

Friday, September 5 - Sunday, September 7 Malvern Retreat House, 315 S Warren Avenue, Malvern

This men's retreat weekend will feature Bishop Schlert as a guest speaker, plus a simulcast of the canonization of Blessed Carlo Acutis.

Contact Anthony Scarselletti at 610-393-4671 or email **OLPH.ascarselletti@gmail.com.**

Women's Retreat Weekend

Friday, September 12 - Sunday, September 14 Malvern Retreat House, 315 S Warren Avenue, Malvern

This women's retreat weekend offers an opportunity to learn, reflect, refresh, "dump your stuff," and increase your personal communion with the Lord.

Contact Anthony Scarselletti at 610-393-4671 or email **OLPH.ascarselletti@gmail.com**

Annual Wedding Anniversary Mass

Sunday, September 14, 3:00pm Cathedral of St. Catharine of Siena, 1825 West Turner St., Allentown

Married couples from across the Diocese are invited to renew their vows and thank God for the gift of the Sacrament of Marriage at a Mass to be celebrated by Bishop Alfred Schlert. Register at www.allentowndiocese.org/anniversarymass



The **Divine Mercy Cenacle** meets regularly for prayer, reflection, and discussion on the writings of St. Maria Faustina to whom Our Lord revealed His Merciful Heart. We will meet on Monday, August 18, at 7:00pm in the church. For more information, please call Felicia at 610-442-2247.

Devotional Candles for the Week of August 17

BVM Candle

Kathleen Kanish (offered by Terri Zakocs & Kay Boris)

St. Theresa Candle

Jean Cranko (offered by Israel family)

Sanctuary Candle

Special Intention (offered by Barbara Bartholomew)



Items for the bulletin are always welcome! Please submit notices at least 10 days ahead of desired publication date.

The collection total for August 9 / 10 is \$8037. Thank you for your generosity.

The Good Samaritan Society offers short-term help to those in need. If you or someone you know needs help, confidential assistance is available. Please call 610-509-5863.

The Good Samaritan Society gratefully accepts monetary contributions and grocery donations. Collection boxes for pantry items are in the stairwells flanking the church vestibule. Please do not donate expired goods.

The Society is in need of the following items:

Mac 'n' cheese, spaghetti sauce, cereal, coffee, canned meats and meals, snacks, and drinks

Checks may be made payable to St. Theresa Church, with "FBO Good Samaritan Society" in the memo line.



Last call for CYO Cross Country!

All members of the parish who are students in grades 2 through 8 are invited to join our CYO Cross Country team. Practices will start in early August. Cross country races are on Sunday afternoons beginning in early September. Race distances are 1/2 mile for 2nd grade, 1 mile for 3rd and 4th grades, 1.5 miles for 5th and 6th grades and 2 miles for 7th and 8th grades. Cross country season runs through mid-October. Contact Tony Karwacki: **tgkarun@aol.com**

HAVE YOU SAID YOUR ROSARY TODAY?

Little Flower Society Enrollments

Carmelite Nuns of the Ancient Observance (Carmel of St. Therese of the Child Jesus) (enrolled by Linda Dull)

Sr. E. Therese Paull, I.H.M. (enrolled by Fartel family)

Sr. Marie Eugene Reed, I.H.M. (enrolled by Fartel family)

Diocesan Pilgrimage to the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception

Tuesday, October 7, Feast of the Holy Rosary

Bus will depart St. Theresa parking lot at 6:30am and will return approximately 10:00pm.

A dinner stop will be made at Mountain Gate Restaurant, 133 Frederick Rd., Thurmont, MD.

Cost of \$100 per person includes bus fare, driver tip, buffet meal, beverages, tax, and gratuity.

To reserve your spot, call the rectory: 610-838-7045.

Join the Seniors Group at Hunterdon Hills Playhouse!



2025 Christmas Show Thursday, November 20



\$130 includes transportation, show, and meal. For information, call Nancy at 610-360-3738.

RECTORY OFFICE: 610-838-7045 **EMAIL:** sttheresacj@gmail.com **WEBSITE:** www.sttheresaotci.org

PARISH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM (PREP)

EMAIL: sttheresacj@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@stsprekhellertown.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.

CONFESSIONS

Saturdays, 4:00pm - 4:30pm; Thursdays, 6:00pm - 7:00pm, 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.

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION: 6:00pm - 7:00pm every Wednesday.

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.

ORDER OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION for ADULTS Please call the rectory: 610-838-7045.

MUSIC DIRECTOR

Matthew Sweitzer (mattsweit1@yahoo.com)

LAY MINISTERS

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

PARISH SECRETARY

Isabella LaTassa, sttheresacj@gmail.com

FINANCE MANAGER

Susan Cavataio, finance.sttheresaci@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 (knights14990@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 / EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS - Lisa Albitz (Lisa.Albitz@yahoo.com), Dr. Francis J. Vasko (Vasko@Kutžtown.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

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 Holu 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.