

St. Theresa of the Child Jesus Parish, 1408 Easton Road, Hellertown, PA

+ August 30, 2026 - 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time +

Rev. John Anthony Hutta II
Pastor

Rev. Dr. John A. Krivak
Pastor Emeritus

Deacon David K. Rohner

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.

**FOLLOW
Jesus!**

*And could you also
follow us on social media?*



/sainttheresachurchhellertown



ST. THERESA OF THE CHILD JESUS CHURCH
/sttheresaotcj.org



Masses

Monday: 6:00pm Mass
(No 8:00am Mass on Mondays)

Tuesday through Friday: 8:00am Mass

Saturday Vigil Mass: 4:15pm

**Sunday Masses: 6:30am, 8:00am,
9:30am, 11:00am**

Eucharistic Adoration

First Friday: 12:00pm - 3:00pm

Tuesday: 6:00pm - 7:00pm

Confession

Saturday: 3:00pm - 3:45pm

First Friday: 12:00pm - 1:00pm



**Whoever
wishes to
come after me
must deny
himself, take
up his cross,
and follow me.**

MATTHEW 16:24

+ August 30, 2026 - 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time +

Calendar, August 30 - September 6

Sunday, August 30

St. Monica Ministry Social outdoors after the 8:00am and 9:30am Masses

Monday, August 31

Boy Scouts, Friendship Hall, 7:00pm

Tuesday, September 1

Good Samaritan Society, Rectory LL, 5:00pm
Eucharistic Adoration, 6:00pm-7:00pm
Ladies Guild, Friendship Hall, 6:30pm

Wednesday, September 2

Safe Environment, Rectory LL, 1:00pm - 3:00pm

Thursday, September 3

No meetings or events scheduled

Friday, September 4

Eucharistic adoration and devotions to St. Theresa, 12:00pm - 3:00pm.
Confessions heard 12:00pm - 1:00pm.

Saturday, September 5

Bingo, Friendship Hall, 6:00pm

Sunday, September 6

No meetings or events scheduled

Mass Intentions, August 30 - September 6

Sunday, August 30 - 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:15pm (Sat.) - Rosalia Schiavone (Eleana Melega)
6:30am - Margie (Lori Gombar)
8:00am - Irene and Louis Kapustic (Ellie Fenner)
9:30am - Brian Patrick McKenna (McBride family)
11:00am - Amelia Lynch (Arnott family)

Monday, August 31 - Weekday

6:00pm - Most Rev. Alfred A. Schlert, Anniversary of Ordination

Tuesday, September 1 - Weekday

8:00am - Donna Teles (Family)

Wednesday, September 2 - Weekday

8:00am - Alois Groegler (Linda & Larry Dull)

Thursday, September 3 - St. Gregory the Great, Pope and Doctor of the Church

8:00am - John Micklus (Mary Ann & Keith Micklus)

Friday, September 4 - Weekday

8:00am - Little Flower Society

Saturday, September 5 - St. Teresa of Calcutta, Virgin

8:00am - Holy Souls in Purgatory

Sunday, September 6 - 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

6:30am - James and Helen Mindock (Estate)
4:15pm (Sat.) - Pat & Tom Wiley, 65th wedding anniversary
8:00am - Denys Rawson (Maria Jones)
9:30am - St. Theresa Memorial Enrollees
11:00am - Jean McNamara (Eleana Melega)

**In observance of Labor Day,
the Rectory will be closed
Friday, September 4 and
Monday, September 7.
Regular office hours will
resume Tuesday, September 8.**



Little Flower Society Enrollments

Congetta Pereira

(enrolled by
Barbara Bartholomew)

Devotional candles represent the flame of faith and love in our hearts. The suggested offering for each devotional candle is \$10.00. Memorialize a loved one who has died with a St. Theresa Memorial Enrollment, available for a suggested donation of \$25. Commemorate a special occasion by enrolling a loved one in the Little Flower Society. A donation of \$15.00 is requested. To reserve, call the rectory: 610-838-7045.

Have you prayed your rosary today?

Devotional Candles, August 30 - September 5

Sacred Heart Candle

Special Intention (offered by Barbara Bartholomew)

Sanctuary Candle

Mark Liptak (offered by Don & Michele Linsky)

St. Theresa Candle

Most Rev. Alfred A. Schlert (offered by Deacon Maurice & Judy Kelly)

BVM Candle

Albert Fischer (offered by Bill & Terri Zakocs)

St. Joseph Candle

Joseph Holub (offered by Lisa, Brandon, and Ryan)

Holy Family Candle

Special Intention (offered by Jim Altimare)



Liturgical Ministers Schedule: September 5/6, 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass time

Lector

EEM

Altar server(s)

4:15pm Saturday
8:00am Sunday
9:30am Sunday
11:00am Sunday

Lisa Holub
Jennifer Tabor
Joe Kazan
Linda Dull

Deacon Dave
Deacon Dave
Deacon Dave
Deacon Dave

Bernadette Wissner
Arthur and Genevieve Tabor
Lay Brothers
Antonio and Agustin Ponce

Keeping Our Parish *Cool* with *God's Love!*

OUR NEW AIR CONDITIONING SYSTEM IS INSTALLED
AND KEEPING OUR PARISH FAMILY COMFORTABLE!

*Thank you for your
prayers, patience,
and generosity!*



†
ST. THERESA
OF THE CHILD JESUS
PARISH
HELLERTOWN, PA

RECEIVED TO DATE

\$78,565

†
Thank you!

OUR GOAL
\$165,000
for our new
Air Conditioning System



Thank you for your incredible generosity, prayers, and patience. Every gift—large or small—helps us provide a comfortable place to worship for generations to come.

God Bless You!



GOAL: **\$165,000**



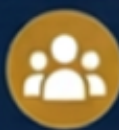
RECEIVED TO DATE: **\$78,565**



REMAINING: **\$86,435**



COMFORT FOR ALL
A cool and comfortable church helps everyone worship with peace and focus.



CARE FOR OUR COMMUNITY
Especially important for our children, seniors, and those with health concerns.



INVESTING IN OUR PARISH HOME
Ensuring our church remains a place of prayer, beauty, and hospitality.

EVERY GIFT COUNTS † THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING

ST. THERESA PARISH!

"Whatever you do for one of these least brothers of mine, you do for me." Matthew 25:40



ST. THERESA PARISH



Register Now!
PREP & CGS
2026-2027

Classes Begin September 20

1st & 3rd Sundays of each month

8:25am - 9:20am

More Information:

tinyurl.com/PREP2026-2027

How to Register

1. Pay online through Zeffy using the links or QR codes.
2. Check your email for a confirmation from Zeffy containing the link to the required registration form.
3. Complete and submit the registration form. Your registration is not complete until both payment and the form have been received.

Please register by September 1

*If the registration fee presents a financial hardship,
please contact the parish office.*

Assistance is available.

st.t.prep@gmail.com

Standard Registration:



tinyurl.com/hellertownprep

for Homeschoolers:

Sacraments Only - Grades 3 & 8



tinyurl.com/prepforhomeschoolers

Food for Thought: Let Them See the Master

One of the greatest compliments a teacher can ever receive is not simply, “You taught me something,” but, “I remembered what you taught me, and I tried to live it.” Years later, a former student returns. A young person from a youth group reaches out. And they say, “I still remember what you told me,” or, “I saw the way you handled that situation, and I tried to do the same.” Why is that so powerful?

Because a true teacher does more than give information. A true teacher leaves an imprint. And today Jesus asks us a challenging question: Whose imprint is visible on your life?

Jesus is not merely one teacher among many. He is the Master-Teacher. And He does not simply give us lessons to memorize. He gives us a life to imitate. His lesson is mercy. His lesson is compassion. His lesson is forgiveness. His lesson is service. His lesson is sacrificial love.

And then He gives us the curriculum of discipleship: “Deny yourself, take up your cross, and follow me.” Those words are beautiful—but they are not easy. There is an old saying: “I never promised you a rose garden.” In a sense, God never promises us one either—at least not without the thorns.

Jeremiah discovered that. He never wanted to be a prophet. He did not wake up one morning dreaming about being rejected, mocked, beaten, persecuted, and thrown into a cistern. Jeremiah wanted to walk away. He even complains that God has led him into a life far more difficult than he expected. He says, in effect, “Lord, I am finished. I am not doing this anymore.” But then something happens. Jeremiah says that God’s Word becomes like a fire burning within his heart, imprisoned in his bones. He tries to hold it in—but he cannot.

That is what happens when God truly gets inside of us. Faith stops being something we merely practice on Sunday and becomes something burning within us. The Psalm reminds us where Jeremiah—and all of us—must turn: “My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.”

When life becomes difficult, when the cross gets heavy, when prayer seems dry, when people misunderstand us, when doing the right thing becomes costly, God does not always remove the difficulty. Sometimes He does something greater: He gives us the strength to walk through it.

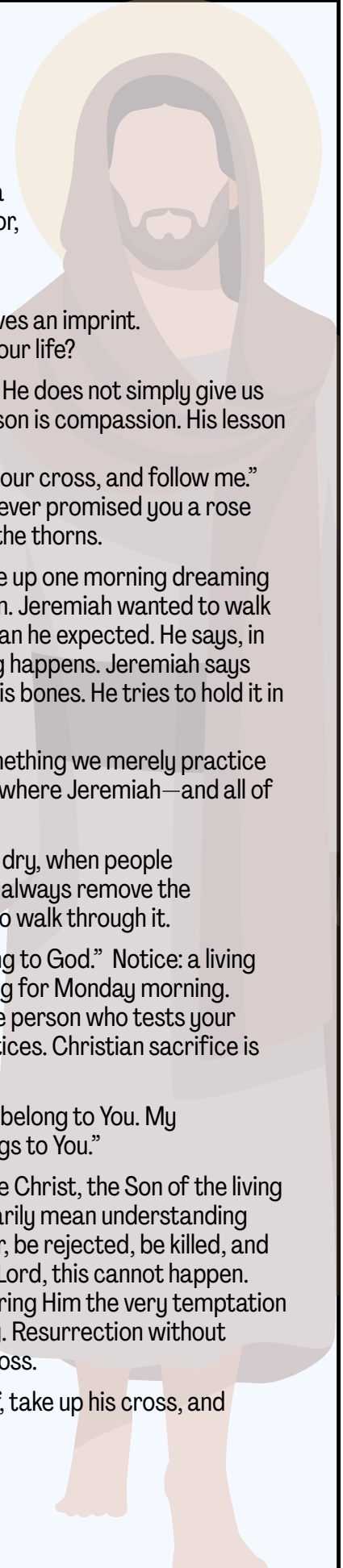
Then St. Paul tells us: “Offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God.” Notice: a living sacrifice. God is not asking only for one dramatic heroic moment. He is asking for Monday morning. Tuesday afternoon. The difficult conversation. The annoying interruption. The person who tests your patience. The forgiveness you would rather withhold. The service nobody notices. Christian sacrifice is often extraordinarily ordinary.

It is saying: “Lord, my time belongs to You. My words belong to You. My gifts belong to You. My relationships belong to You. My suffering belongs to You. My entire life belongs to You.”

And then comes the Gospel. Last week Peter got it exactly right: “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.” But today Peter discovers that knowing who Jesus is does not necessarily mean understanding how Jesus lives. Jesus begins explaining that He must go to Jerusalem, suffer, be rejected, be killed, and rise. Peter does not like that plan. He pulls Jesus aside and essentially says, “Lord, this cannot happen. There must be another way.” Jesus responds strongly because Peter is offering Him the very temptation Satan had offered before: Glory without sacrifice. Victory without suffering. Resurrection without Calvary. A crown without a cross. But there is no Christianity without the Cross.

Jesus therefore says: “Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me.”

Three movements. Deny yourself. Take up your cross. Follow Jesus.



To deny yourself does not mean believing that you have no value. Quite the opposite. It means recognizing that your deepest identity is no longer found merely in what you want, but in what Christ desires to accomplish through you.

The disciple says: "Jesus, You are the Master. I am the apprentice. Teach me to love as You love."

Then: take up your cross. We sometimes use the word "cross" too casually. A traffic jam is irritating, but it is probably not your cross. The Cross means loving when love costs something. Forgiving when you would rather stay angry. Remaining faithful when walking away would be easier. Serving someone who cannot repay you. Holding onto faith when God seems silent. Standing beside someone who is suffering when you cannot fix their suffering. That is the Cross.

And finally Jesus says: "Follow me." Not admire me. Not merely study me. Not occasionally visit me. Follow me.

There is a beautiful image from the ancient world that helps us understand discipleship. Imagine a young apprentice learning a craft from a master craftsman. The apprentice does not simply read the master's manual. He lives near the master. He watches the master. He works beside the master. He notices how the master holds the tools. He observes how the master responds when something goes wrong. He listens to the master's wisdom. Little by little, almost without realizing it, the apprentice begins to move like the master. Eventually the apprentice creates something of his own and carries it into the marketplace. Someone looks at his work and says: "I don't know who you are—but I know who taught you."

What a magnificent description of Christianity. Imagine someone looking at the way you speak to the lonely... the way you forgive someone who hurt you... the way you treat a stranger... the way you care for the poor... the way you respond under pressure... the way you carry suffering... the way you love your family... and saying: "I may not know much about you, but I think I know who your Master is."

That is discipleship. Saints are simply men and women whose lives became so shaped by Jesus that the world could recognize the Master in the disciple. Mother Teresa once said that we may not always be able to do great things, but we can do small things with great love. That is how Christ is made visible. Not always in extraordinary miracles. Sometimes in patience. Sometimes in kindness. Sometimes in listening. Sometimes in choosing not to retaliate. Sometimes in sitting beside someone who is grieving. Sometimes in saying, "I forgive you." Sometimes in saying, "How can I help?" Sometimes in quietly carrying a cross no one else even knows about.

And perhaps that is the question the Word of God places before us today:

If someone watched my life for one week, would they be able to tell who my Master is?

Would they see Jesus in my patience? Would they hear Jesus in my words? Would they experience Jesus in my compassion? Would they encounter Jesus through the way I treat them? Because ultimately, the greatest compliment a Christian could ever receive is not: "You are successful." "You are impressive." "You are talented." The greatest compliment would be: "There is something about you that reminds me of Jesus."

So today let us pray:

Lord Jesus, Master and Teacher, form us into Your image. Teach us to deny ourselves without losing ourselves. Teach us to carry our crosses without bitterness. Teach us to follow You without conditions. Let Your mercy shape our hearts, Your compassion guide our hands, and Your love govern our lives.

And may we become such faithful apprentices of the Master that when people encounter us, they can say: "I may not know everything about you... but I know who your Master is."

May we continue to be formed into the image of Jesus, the Master-Teacher, so that others may come to know the Master by the way we relate to them. Let them see Jesus in us.



Cook up a deliciously healthful homemade meal in minutes with Frontier Soups!

Frontier Soups offers all your favorites: chili, black bean, chicken noodle, potato, broccoli cheddar, and more.

Frontier Soups are all gluten free and non-GMO, and contain no added salt, no preservatives, and nothing artificial...ever.

Order your Frontier Soups during the Simmering September Soups Sale

Cool weather is coming, so stock up on Frontier Soups and be ready for the autumn chill. Got a friend who deserves a night off from dinner prep? Frontier Soups make welcome gifts!

Beginning September 2, stop in the vestibule and pick up a flyer containing all the information you need to place your Frontier Soups order by September 30. Kindly support this fundraiser for our parish.

Please note: The Frontier Soups sale does not take the place of the Guild's annual frozen soup sale. Look for the frozen soup sale in January, 2027!

The Good Samaritan Society offers short term assistance to residents of Hellertown-Lower Saucon Township. If you or someone you know needs help, call the society confidentially at 610-509-5863. Monetary donations are accepted! Make checks payable to St. Theresa Church, with "FBO Good Samaritan Society" as the memo.

"Love Jesus Back" Family Holy Hour for children of all ages

**Tuesday, September 8, 6:00pm
St. Theresa Church**

Presiding will be Fr. Brendon Laroche, pastor at St. Ursula Parish, Fountain Hill. Come spend time with Our Lord in the Most Blessed Sacrament, thank Him for His great love, and pray for those who do not yet love Him in return. A potluck dinner will precede the Holy Hour, offering fellowship with other families.

Sign up for the potluck at [tinyurl.com/4t34wr58](https://www.tinyurl.com/4t34wr58)

This evening of prayer and fellowship is sponsored by the St. Monica Ministry.



All are invited to celebrate the St. Theresa Choir!

Join us for **Coffee & Choir** after all Sunday Masses on September 6th in Friendship Hall. Everyone is invited to stop by for coffee, light refreshments, and fellowship with members of our Music Ministry. Whether you're simply looking to meet fellow parishioners, reconnect after the summer, or learn more about our choir, we'd love to see you. Our full choir will be gathered following the 9:30am Mass.

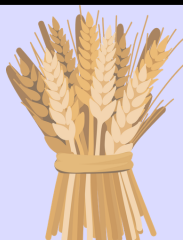
If you've ever considered singing or sharing your musical talents, this is a wonderful opportunity to ask questions and discover how you can become part of our music ministry. No previous choir experience is needed and new voices are always welcome.

As we begin a new season, we also extend a heartfelt welcome back to all of our current Music Ministry members. Thank you for sharing your time, talent, and dedication to enriching our liturgies throughout the year. We look forward to making music together again!

St. Cecilia and St. Gregory, pray for us.

A charitable gift to St. Theresa of the Child Jesus Parish is a beautiful way to support the parish while also offering possible financial and tax benefits to the giver.

Those who are 70½ or older may make a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) directly from their IRA. A QCD may allow a gift to be excluded from taxable income. Every financial situation is unique, so be sure to consult a tax advisor before taking any action regarding your IRA. For information, call **Sue at 610-838-7045.**



Weekly Collection Report

The August 23 total is \$9763.
Thank you for your generosity!

Next Sunday, September 6, there will be one collection. It will go towards routine parish expenses.

**Bingo WILL take place
Labor Day weekend!**

Saturday, September 5
Friendship Hall

Doors open 5:15pm; games
begin 6:00pm.
\$25 packet includes
15 regular games
PLUS specials.



Join the St. Theresa Seniors
at Sight & Sound Theater!

"Joshua"

Tuesday, November 10

\$169 includes 11:00am show, bus
transportation, and meal. For info,
call Nancy at 610-360-3738.



Save the dates for AUTUMNFEST

Saturday, November 14, 9:00am - 2:00pm

Sunday, November 15, 8:30am - 1:00pm

Watch the bulletin for details.



***"Will you not watch
one hour with Me?"***

Eucharistic Adoration

**Tuesday, August 31
6:00pm - 7:00pm**

**Friday, September 4
12:00pm - 3:00pm**

In His appearances to St. Margaret Mary
Alacoque, Our Lord designated the first
Friday of each month as a day to honor
His Sacred Heart and to make
reparation for sin. Please join the
St. Theresa community in its First Friday
devotions on September 4 at 7:30am.

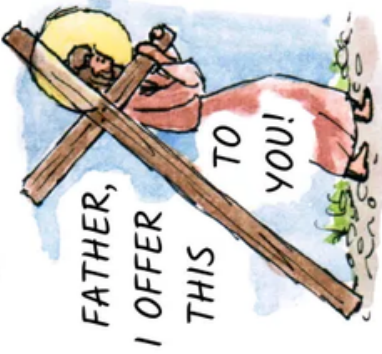


St. Theresa Parish at Hellertown Community Day



St. Monica Ministry rosary-making

If you want to be my disciple...



What would you think if your best friend told you that you would have to die if you wanted to stay friends? In today's Gospel reading Jesus told the Apostles that if they wanted to be like Him they would have to take up their crosses and follow Him.

Jesus was teaching them that this world is a preparation for Heaven. If we make sacrifices for love of God then we will be ready for Heaven. Jesus opened the gates of Heaven to us by dying out of love for God the Father and for us. We get little crosses every day when things make us unhappy. If we offer them to God with love, they are like dying a little bit, and they prepare us for Heaven.



Sometimes we think that we need nice things or to be with fun people if we want to be happy. It's easy to forget that we will never be completely happy here. Next time you feel unhappy, remember that it's a cross that can help you get to Heaven!

TOO BAD. I GUESS



The Kids' Bulletin

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
August 30th, 2026



What did Jesus say that the people would have to do to be His disciples? Find your way through the maze and then use the letters from that path to fill in the blanks.

Answer to maze on Front: Take up your cross and follow me.
Answers to Match-up: 1.D 2.C 3.E 4.B 5.G 6.A 7.F

www.thekidsbulletin.com

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@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 / PARISH SAFE ENVIRONMENT

DIOCESAN COORDINATOR: Pamela J. Russo, MSW, MS

TELEPHONE: 610-871-5200, ext. 2204

EMAIL: prusso@allentowndiocese.org

PARISH COORDINATOR: Lisa Albitz

TELEPHONE: 973-722-1326

EMAIL: lisa.albitz@yahoo.com

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, 3:00pm - 3:45pm; 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.

EUCCHARISTIC 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, Sacred Heart, St. Theresa and Holy Family 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

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Susan Cavataio, finance.sttheresacj@gmail.com

BULLETIN EDITOR

Celeste Behe, bulletin.sttheresacj@gmail.com

HOLY NAME SOCIETY - Thomas Wiley

LECTORS/EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS/ALTAR SERVERS -

Lisa Albitz (Lisa.Albitz@yahoo.com)

Dr. Francis J. Vasko (vasko@emeriti.kutztown.edu)

William Ripper (wripper@gmail.com)

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 - Isabella LaTassa

sttheresacj@gmail.com)

GRIEF SUPPORT - Miriam Martin (610-442-0947),

Ellie Fenner

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

DIVINE MERCY CENACLE - Felicia Wallach

(wallach20@rcn.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

CATECHESIS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD (CGS) -

Maria Jones (marialellis@gmail.com)