

# **+ November 30, 2025 - First Sunday of Advent +**

**St. Theresa of the Child  
Jesus Roman Catholic  
Church**

**1408 Easton Road  
Hellertown, PA 18055**

**Rev. John Anthony Hutta II,  
Parochial Administrator**

**Rev. Dr. John A. Krivak,  
Pastor Emeritus**

**Deacon David K. Rohner**

## **Mass and Confession Schedule**

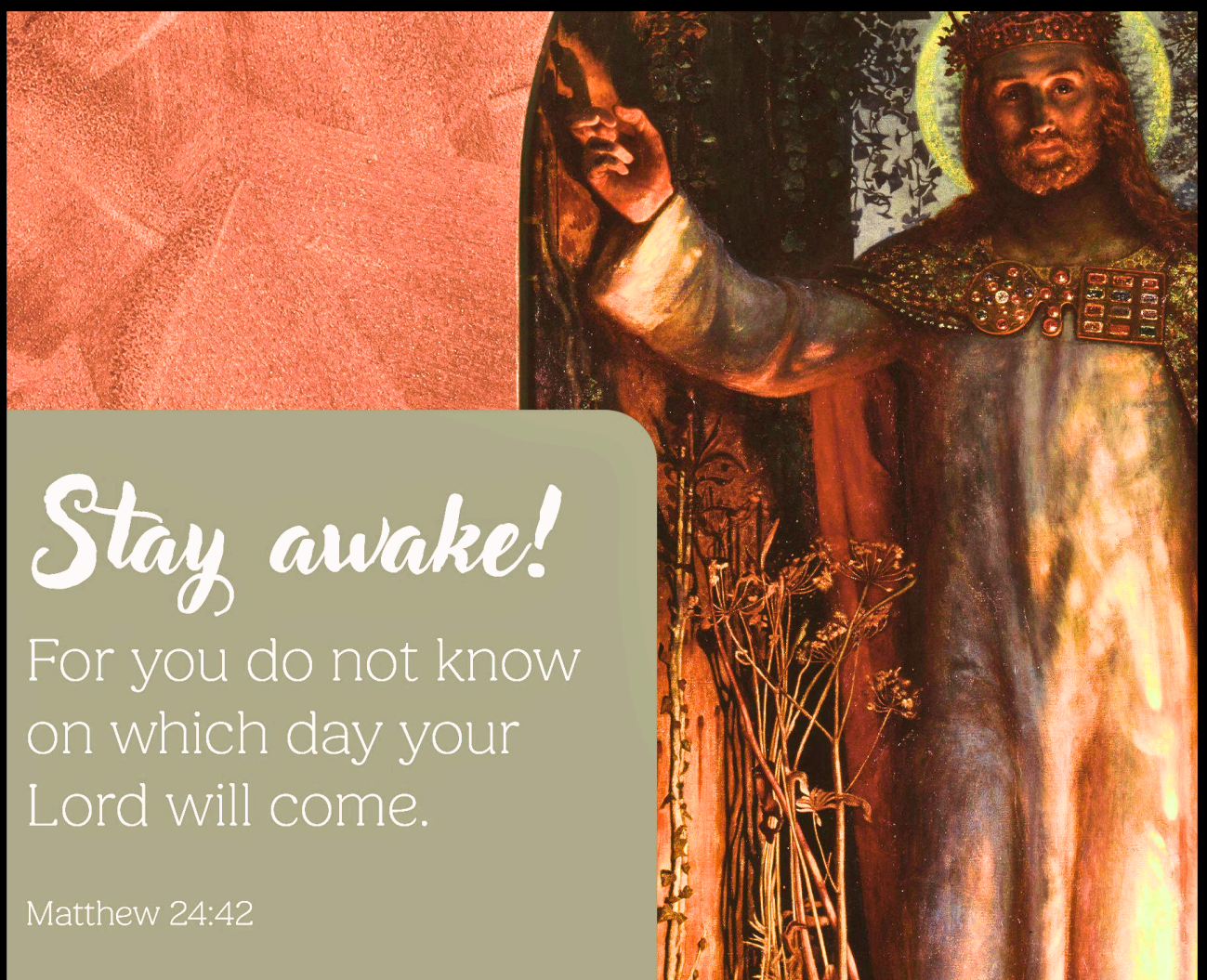
**Monday through Friday, 8:00am  
Mass**

**First Saturday, 8:00am Mass**

**Saturday (Vigil Mass), 5:00 pm**

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

**Confessions on Saturdays from  
4:00pm - 4:30pm, and on First  
Fridays from 12:00pm - 1:00pm**



*Stay awake!*

For you do not know  
on which day your  
Lord will come.

Matthew 24:42

## + November 30, 2025 - First Sunday of Advent

### Calendar: November 30 - December 7

#### **Sunday, November 30**

No meetings or events scheduled.

#### **Monday, December 1**

KoC, Friendship Hall, 7:00pm  
Boy Scouts, Parish Center, 7:00pm  
CGS Lvl. 1, Church LL, 9:45 - 11:45

#### **Tuesday, December 2**

Eucharistic Adoration, Church, 6:00pm - 7:00pm; no confessions  
Ladies Guild Christmas celebration, off site, 6:00pm

#### **Wednesday, December 3**

PREP 1-6, School, 4:30pm - 5:45pm

#### **Thursday, December 4**

CGS Lvl. 1, Church LL, 9:45am - 11:45am;  
CGS Lvl. 2, Church LL, 1:00pm - 3:00pm and 4:30pm - 6:30pm  
PREP 7, Friendship Hall, 6:00pm - 7:00pm  
PREP 8, Parish Center, 6:30pm - 7:45pm

#### **Friday, December 5**

First Friday Eucharistic adoration, Church, 12:00pm - 3:00pm; confessions 12:00 - 1:00

#### **Saturday, December 6**

Bingo, Friendship Hall, 6:00pm

#### **Sunday, December 7**

No meetings or events scheduled.

### Mass Intentions: November 30 - December 7

#### **Sunday, November 30 - First Sunday of Advent**

5:00pm (Sat.) - Rod Eckenrode (Wife & the Karlheim family)  
8:00am - Sr. Marlene Daltwas, I.H.M. (Very Rev. Jerome A. Tauber)  
9:30am - Edward Fotta (Debbie & Ron Petrundo)  
11:00am - Mary Fischer (Family)

#### **Monday, December 1 - Advent Weekday**

8:00am - Brendan Meeks (Eleana Melega)

#### **Tuesday, December 2 - Advent Weekday**

8:00am - Ronald Minotti (Wife, Charlene)

#### **Wednesday, December 3 - St. Francis Xavier, Priest**

8:00am - Tom Long (Linda & Larry Dull)

#### **Thursday, December 4 - St. John Damascene, Priest and Doctor of the Church**

9:00am - Tom Black (Eleana Melega)

#### **Friday, December 5 - Advent Weekday**

8:00am - Little Flower Society

#### **Saturday, December 6 - St. Nicholas, Bishop**

8:00am - Francis Paul Loeber (Michael & Joanne Loeber)

#### **Sunday, December 7 - Second Sunday of Advent**

5:00pm (Sat.) - Sr. Francine Garganta, O.S.F. (Congetta Pereira)  
8:00am - Janina Ostrowska (Smith family)  
9:30am - Nicholas Paduano, Jr. (Dean & Angela Reiman)  
11:00am - Donald E. Granger (Knights of Columbus)



**“In the wilderness prepare the way for the LORD;  
make straight in the desert a highway  
for our God” (Isaiah 40:3).**





## **Advent / Christmas Schedule**

### **Eucharistic Adoration and Confession**

#### **Eucharistic Adoration**

**Advent Mondays, 6:00pm - 8:00pm**

**Advent Tuesdays, 6:00pm - 7:00pm**

#### **Confession**

**Advent Mondays, 6:00pm - 7:00pm**

**and on**

**Saturday, December 20**

**from 3:30pm to 4:30pm.**

*No confessions heard Christmas Eve or Christmas Day.*

#### **Mass Schedule - The Nativity of the Lord**

**(Holy Day of Obligation)**

#### **Vigil Christmas Eve Masses**

**Wednesday, December 24**

4:00pm - Children's Mass with St. Nicholas

7:00pm - Vigil Mass for the Nativity of Our Lord

10:00pm - Mass by Candlelight

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#### **Christmas Day - Thursday, December 25**

**(Holy Day of Obligation)**

**Masses are at 8:00am, 9:30am, and 11:00am**

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#### **Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God**

**(Holy Day of Obligation)**

**Vigil Mass, Wednesday, December 31, 4:00pm**

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#### **Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God**

**Thursday, January 1**

**Mass 9:00am**





## Fundraising While You Shop!

Purchase gift cards at St. Theresa Church for America's top retailers and use them for your everyday purchases. St. Theresa Church earns money with every gift card purchase. Support St. Theresa Church by buying gift cards for birthdays, showers, graduations, or any special events. Plan ahead and use gift cards for groceries, home improvement, clothing, or even Black Friday and Christmas shopping! The more families participating, the **BIGGER** the earnings for our Church!

### HOW TO ORDER:

Special Order Dates (full list of retailers available for these orders) Below are the special-order dates and order forms are enclosed. Please keep for your reference. Each special order will be an insert in the bulletin prior to the deadline date with detailed instructions on placing these orders.

#### Order Deadline Dates

**December 5 for pickup by December 15**

**March 19 for pickup by March 27**

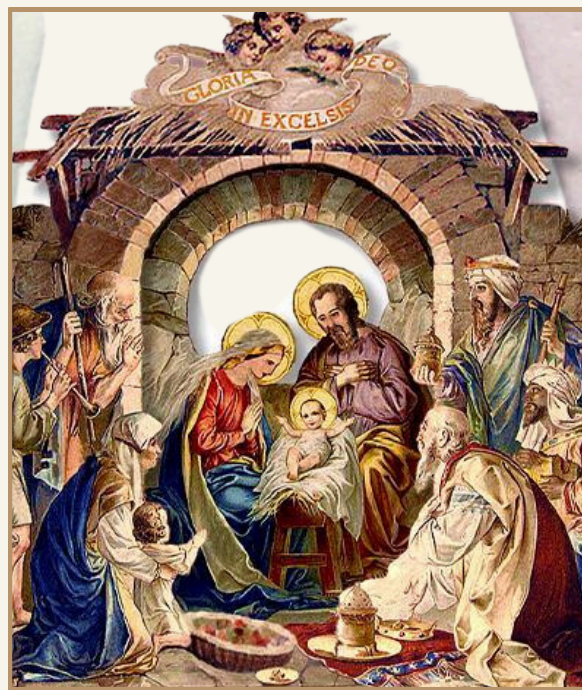
**May 7 for pickup by May 15**



## Oplatki: A Christmas Tradition


An Eastern European tradition, oplatki are white wafers imprinted with Nativity scenes. The custom is for family members to gather around the Christmas Eve table. The eldest will break off a piece of the oplatki wafer and pass it to another family member while offering a blessing for that person. The sharing of the oplatki is an expression of unconditional love and forgiveness.

The tradition's resemblance to the Eucharistic meal is no coincidence. Just as we share in the Eucharist as one family in Christ and receive Christ's love through the Eucharist, the oplatki allows for the members of a family to come together and share the love they have for one another. This symbolism is deepened by the fact that the name of the town where Jesus Christ was born, Bethlehem, means "House of Bread." The oplatki tradition is an especially beautiful way to celebrate the charity and unity that are characteristic of the Christmas season.



**Oplatki may be purchased at the rectory. One package of three wafers is \$3.00. Two packages of three wafers are \$5.00.**






# *A Christmas Open House*

will be held at the Rectory on  
Sunday, December 28 after all Masses.

All are invited to drop in and enjoy cookies and  
hot beverages in a festive and convivial atmosphere.  
Come and celebrate the joys of the holy season  
with Father Hutta, Deacon Dave,  
and the members of the rectory staff.



## **The St. Theresa Parish Advent Giving Tree**

Our Advent Giving Tree is an Advent symbol portraying the spiritual heritage of Jesus as suggested by Isaiah's prophecy: "There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse." We, too, are that shoot as we claim our baptismal heritage. How might God be calling us to share our gifts this year? One way is to help our local Catholic Charities which provides for women who are experiencing crisis pregnancies in the Diocese of Allentown.

Just remove a tag from the Giving Tree and either  
(1) purchase the designated gift card at the rectory,  
or (2) place your payment and gift tag in an envelope  
marked "Giving Tree" and drop it in the collection  
basket. Your purchase will not only aid the needy  
but will also help St. Theresa's, since the parish  
will receive a percentage as well. **Please note  
that gift cards must be purchased through  
the parish in order to benefit St. Theresa's.**



### Devotional Candles for the Week of November 30



#### Sanctuary Candle

Special Intention  
(offered by Barbara Bartholomew)

#### St. Theresa Candle

Special Intention  
(offered by Janice McKellin)

#### BVM Candle

Sr. Francine Garganta O.S.F.  
(offered by Congetta Pereira)

#### St. Joseph Candle

Special Intention  
(offered by Jim Altimare)



### The Good Samaritan Society Advent season food drive is underway!

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. We are grateful for both monetary and food donations.

**In addition to the items listed on the Reverse Advent calendar**, we are in need of:

*Breakfast items, snack foods, canned/boxed potatoes  
soup, coffee/cocoa, mustard, ketchup,  
salad dressing, baking items*

Reverse Advent calendars are available in the church vestibule. No expired goods, please.



The next meeting of the **IHM Companions** will take place Tuesday, December 9, from 3:30pm to 4:45pm in the Rectory Library.

Entry is from the parking lot. On the right side of the garage is a stairwell of three steps and a ramp that leads into the rectory basement. Go through the first meeting room into the second that has been designated for IHM meetings. Topic is "Ruth - God's Kingdom has room for all of us." If you have any questions, please call Priscilla Dole at 609-409-1509. All are welcome.

The **St. Theresa Parish Prayer Line** offers prayers for others' intentions. Prayer requests may be emailed to Colleen Fitzgerald at colleenfitz0@gmail.com or called in to Fred Giordano at 610-838-6490. Prayer intentions will be shared with Prayer Line members only.

If you would like to join us in praying for others' intentions, please provide your information in the Prayer Line Member Sign-Up below, and either drop the completed form into the collection basket or bring it to the rectory.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Contact (one means only, please) \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_

**Please join the parish  
community for First Friday  
Eucharistic Adoration  
on December 5 from  
12:00pm to 3:00pm.**

**Confessions will be heard  
from 12:00 pm to 1:00pm.**



**Don't forget to begin your St. Andrew  
novena on November 30!**

### CHRISTMAS NEWS BREAK: NUT ROLL SALE REMINDER ORDER FORM

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Walnut \_\_\_\_\_ Poppyseed \_\_\_\_\_ Lekvar \_\_\_\_\_  
Seedless Raspberry \_\_\_\_\_ Apricot \_\_\_\_\_ Pumpkin Cheese \_\_\_\_\_

Total # of rolls \_\_\_\_\_ x \$18 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Order form and payment must be received at the rectory by DECEMBER 1, 2025.  
CASH OR CHECKS accepted. Please make checks payable to St. Theresa's Ladies Guild.  
Drop off order or send to St. Theresa Church Rectory, 1408 Easton Road, Hellertown, PA 18055.





### St. Monica Ministry Holy Hour

#### St. Monica Ministry "Sup, Sip, and Fellowship"

A St. Monica Ministry Holy Hour of Petition and Hope will take place at St. Theresa's on Tuesday, December 9 at 6:00pm. Presiding will be Deacon Maurice Kelly, who serves at Assumption B.V.M. Parish, Bethlehem. Please come join in prayer for the return to the Church of Catholics who are no longer practicing their faith.

An informal supper will precede the Holy Hour. Enjoy soup, bread, and beverages in Friendship Hall, beginning at 4:45pm.

There is no charge for the supper, but donations are accepted.

For more information, please call the rectory.

### Calling all bakers

The St. Theresa Ladies Guild invites you to bake up treats for its Christmas Bake Sale. Please bring your goodies to Friendship Hall on Saturday, December 13 from 9:00am - 11:00 and/or from 4:00pm - 6:00pm.



## Christmas Bake Sale

Saturday, December 13,  
4:00pm to 6:00pm  
and



Sunday, December 14  
8:30am to 1:00pm  
in Friendship Hall



Let the skilled bakers of St. Theresa Parish do the baking for you! Come and shop for holiday goodies made with love.

The collection total for November 22/23 will be published next week. Thank you for your generosity!

**"Pray the rosary every day to obtain peace for the world." - Our Lady of Fatima, May 13, 1917**

***Have you prayed the rosary today?***

### 15th Annual Mass of Remembrance



Saturday, December 6, 12:45pm  
St. Ann Church, 415 S. 6th St., Emmaus



Join us to celebrate the lives of your departed loved ones. The Remembrance Mass will be followed by a light reception. To have your loved ones remembered by name, enroll them at [www.churchstann.org/mass-of-remembrance](http://www.churchstann.org/mass-of-remembrance)

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

**Eucharistic Adoration**  
**Tuesday, December 2**  
**6:00pm - 7:00pm**

*Note: Confessions will not be heard.*

### Women's Advent Retreat

Saturday, December 13  
8:30am - 1:00pm

St. Francis of Assisi Parish  
1046 W Cedar St., Allentown

As Advent Women, we are called, like Mary Our Mother, to be bearers of Hope to our families and communities. Come and rediscover your identity as a bearer of light in a world of darkness.

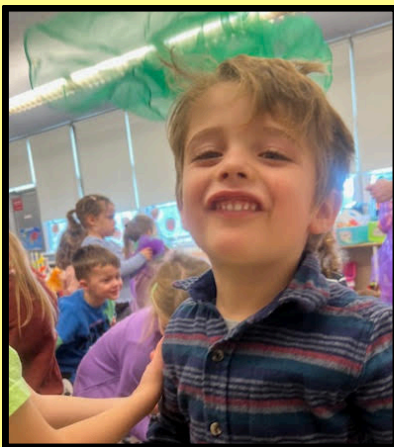
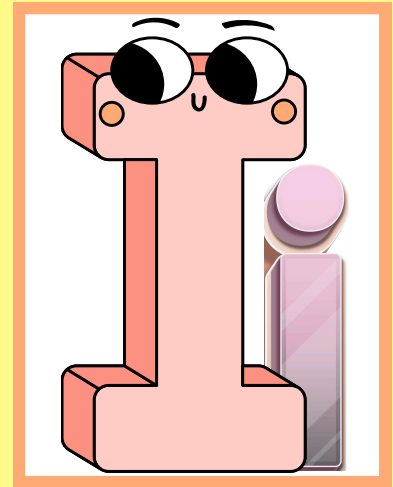
**Keynote speaker is our very own Fr. John Hutta!**

Space is limited, so register today:  
[www.allentowndiocese.org/  
catholic-life/resources-women/  
womens-advent-retreat-2025](http://www.allentowndiocese.org/catholic-life/resources-women/womens-advent-retreat-2025)



# THIS WEEK AT ST. THERESA PRESCHOOL

We buzzed into Letter "I" for "insects" and dipped into some yummy chocolate pudding to celebrate our Color of the Month: Brown!





# It's Time to get Ready for Christmas!

Advent is here! In a few weeks it will be Christmas, so it's time to start getting ready!



During Advent we remember Jesus' first coming, and get ourselves and our homes ready to celebrate His birthday.

Lighting the candles on an Advent wreath



helps us to remember that Jesus, the light of the world, is coming. We start with one candle, and every week light one more, so that the closer we get to Jesus' coming the brighter it gets.

In Advent we also think about Jesus' second coming. In today's Gospel reading Jesus tells the people to be prepared for that time. We must never let ourselves forget that this world and this life are only temporary and that we have something much greater to look forward to: Jesus and Heaven!



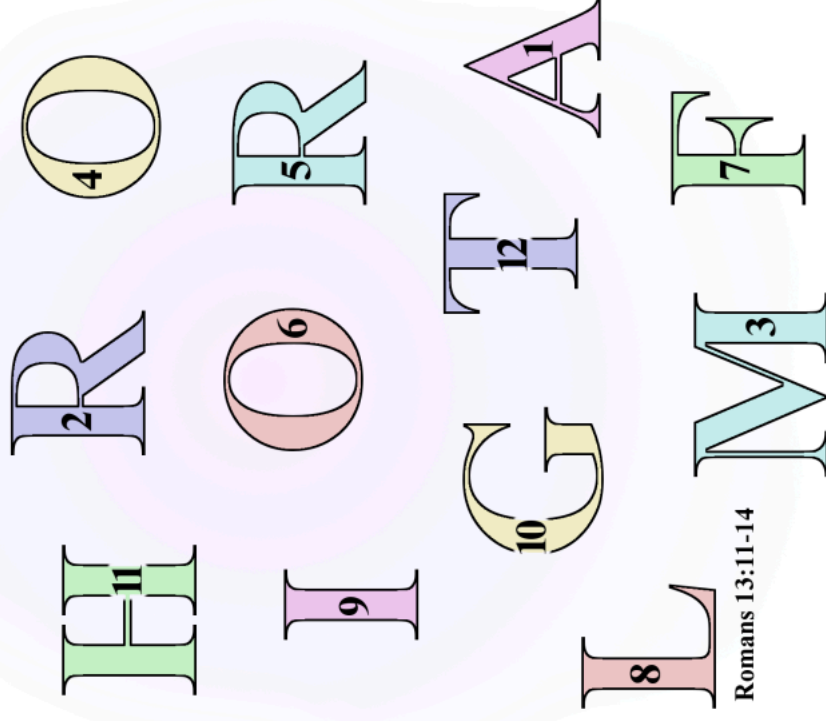
Answer to puzzle on front page: armor of light  
Answer to Fill in the Blanks: Be ready!

[www.thekidsbulletin.com](http://www.thekidsbulletin.com)

# The Kids' Bulletin

## First Sunday of Advent

Sort the letters to fill in the blanks at the bottom



Romans 13:11-14

In today's second reading  
Saint Paul tells the Romans to throw off the  
works of darkness and put on the

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

**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 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](http://www.ReportBishopAbuse.org) OR call 800-276-1562.

**CONFESSIONS**

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.

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, 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](mailto: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 (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/EUCCHARISTIC 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