

+ December 7, 2025 - Second 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

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.

Mass Schedule

Monday through Friday, 8:00am

Saturday (Vigil Mass), 5:00 pm

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

Eucharistic Adoration

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

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

Confession

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

Saturdays from 4:00pm - 4:30pm

**Saturday, December 20 from
3:30pm to 4:30pm.**



Repent, for the kingdom
of heaven is at hand!

MATTHEW 3:2

© JP

+ December 7, 2025 - Second Sunday of Advent +

Calendar: December 7 - 14

Sunday, December 7

No meetings or events scheduled.

Monday, December 8 (Holy Day of Obligation)

Divine Mercy Cenacle, Church, 7:00pm

Boy Scouts, Friendship Hall, 7:00pm

CGS Lvl. 1, Church LL, 9:45 - 11:45

Tuesday, December 9

IHM Companions, Rectory LL, 3:00pm - 4:45pm

St. Monica Ministry Holy Hour, Church, 6:00pm

St. Monica Ministry meeting, Rectory LL, 7:00pm

Wednesday, December 10

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

Thursday, December 11

CGS Lvl. 1, Church LL, 9:45am - 11:45am;

CGS Lvl. 2, Church LL, 1:00pm - 3:00pm; 4:30pm - 6:30pm

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

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

Choir, 6:30pm - 7:30pm

Friday, December 12

Parents' Night Out, Friendship Hall, 5:30pm - 9:30pm

Saturday, December 13

Christmas Bake Sale, Friendship Hall, 4:00pm - 6:00pm

Sunday, December 14

Christmas Bake Sake, Friendship Hall, 8:30pm - 12:00pm

Mass Intentions: December 7 - 14

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)

Monday, December 8 - Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception

7:00am - Margaret Falatek (Estate)

8:00am - Sr. Marie Eugene Reed, I.H.M. (Very Rev. Jerome Tauber)

12:00pm - Barbara Roth (Anne-Marie Thompson)

6:00pm - Tom Long III (Marek & Grazyna Klecznski)

Tuesday, December 9 - St. Juan Diego

8:00am - Catherine & Hunter Roth (Mom & Dad)

Wednesday, December 10 - Our Lady of Loreto

8:00am - Justine Tino (Neff family)

Thursday, December 11 - St. Damasus I, Pope

9:00am - Raymond A. Bushner (St. Monica Ministry)

Friday, December 12 - Our Lady of Guadalupe

8:00am - Ralph Nalepka (Wife, Sandy Nalepka)

Saturday, December 13 - St. Lucy, Virgin and Martyr

No 8:00am

Sunday, December 14 - Third Sunday of Advent

5:00pm (Sat.) - Barbara Smith (William & Deborah Smith)

8:00am - Mary Lou Schlert (Shupe family)

9:30am - Marie Velez (Ray & Steph Velez)

11:00am - Bernard Kametz (Family)

Liturgical Ministers Schedule, December 8

Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary (A Holy Day of Obligation)

MASS TIME	LECTOR	EEM	ALTAR SERVER
7:00am Monday	TBD	TBD	TBD
8:00am Monday	Dave Smith	Deacon Dave	Lay Brothers
12:00pm Monday	Lisa Holub	Denise Goodrich	VOLUNTEER NEEDED
7:00pm Monday	Joani Dornblaser	Deacon Dave	Sean Jebitsch

Liturgical Ministers Schedule, December 13/14 - Second Sunday of Advent

MASS TIME	LECTOR	EEM	ALTAR SERVER
5:00pm Saturday	Janice Sodemann	Janice Sodemann	VOLUNTEER NEEDED
8:00am Sunday	Joel Silverthorn	Deacon Dave	Isabella LaTassa
9:30am Sunday	Jeremy Leidich	Jeremy Leidich	Helen Behe
11:00am Sunday	Margot Teleki	Peggy Vietro	Ponce Brothers



OFFICE OF THE BISHOP
Mailing address
POST OFFICE BOX F
ALLENTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA 18105



18 November 2025

Reverend John A. Hutta
Saint Theresa of the Child Jesus Rectory
1408 Easton Road
Hellertown, Pennsylvania 18055

Dear Father Hutta,

Thank you for your fraternal hospitality and the beautiful vestment from the Holy Rood Guild that were offered me during my visit to celebrate the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of Saint Theresa of the Child Jesus Parish, Hellertown. I was edified by the parishioners' depth of faith and the appreciation they have for you.

I am also grateful for the invitation to attend the post-Anniversary Mass dinner at DeSales University. I greatly value the time I am able to spend with the dedicated clergy and laity of our Diocese, because it is all of our collaboration that makes our Diocese strong.

On this occasion of your 100th Anniversary, it is my fervent hope and prayer that vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Life will increase in the Diocese of Allentown and in particular from Saint Theresa of the Child Jesus Parish, Hellertown.

Please know of my prayers for your pastoral work and for your personal priestly life as together we seek to do God's Will of feeding the flock of Christ entrusted to us.

Fraternally yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Alfred A. Schlert
Bishop of Allentown



The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception is a **Holy Day of Obligation**; that is, all Catholics are required to attend Mass on this day. The term "Immaculate Conception" does not refer to Mary's conceiving of Jesus by the Holy Ghost, but to the conception of Mary in the womb of her mother, St. Anne. What makes Mary's conception immaculate is that, from the very moment that she was conceived in the womb of St. Anne, Mary was sinless. God gave Mary this grace so that she might be a pure vessel by whom Christ could enter the world.

Since the beginning of the Church, the Blessed Virgin Mary has been regarded as the holiest and the most blessed of all disciples. The celebration of the Immaculate Conception began in the 7th century under the title, "Conception of Mary by Saint Anne" and was changed to "Immaculate Conception" with the definition of the doctrine in 1854 by Pope Pius XI.

We can say that the Immaculate Conception was the beginning of our salvation and is now one of the central doctrines of our faith. Because of this, we celebrate this feast day to highlight the significant place Our Lady has in salvation history. This is so important that the Church has decreed the Solemnity to be a Holy Day of Obligation, so that all Catholics may have the opportunity for worship and for reflection on the mystery of Mary's Immaculate Conception.

Here at St. Theresa's, Masses for the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception will be celebrated according to the following schedule:

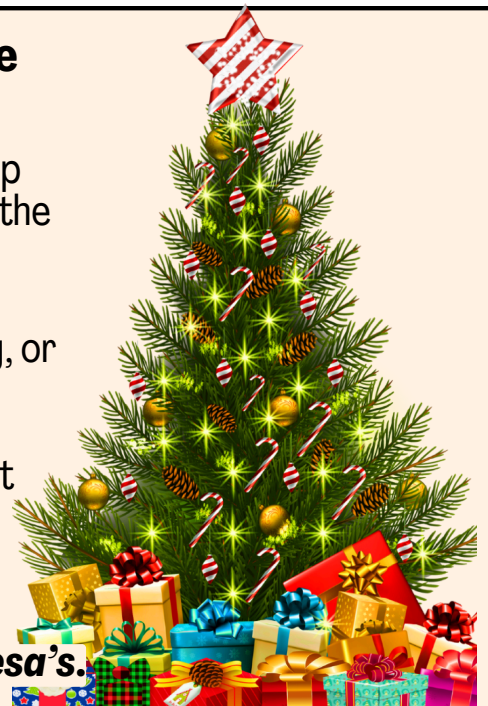
Monday, December 8, 7:00am
 Monday, December 8, 8:00am
 Monday, December 8, 12:00pm
 Monday, December 8, 6:00pm

The St. Theresa Parish Advent Giving Tree

Our Advent Giving Tree is a means of sharing your blessings during this holy season. Your gifts will help 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.



My beloved parish family of St. Theresa,

As we close this blessed Centennial Year, my heart overflows with gratitude to God for each one of you. What a grace-filled, joyful, and unforgettable year we have lived together! We honored our history, we celebrated our faith, and we gave praise to God for 100 years of prayer, sacrifice, devotion, and love rooted deeply in this corner of Hellertown.

This past year, we stood on the shoulders of the immigrant founders who built this parish with bare hands and burning faith. We honored Fr. Francis Vlossak's vision that "My people see only drear all day. I want them to see beauty on Sunday." We honored our patroness St. Theresa of the Child Jesus—our Little Flower—who teaches us that the greatest works of love often bloom in the smallest acts of faithfulness.

And now, we turn the page to a new chapter.

Forward Into the Next Century of Grace

As we step into our next 100 years, may we continue to honor St. Theresa not just with celebrations, but by living her Little Way—trusting God completely, doing small things with great love, and bringing the fragrance of Christ into every home, every heart, and every corner of Hellertown.

This parish is blessed—not because of buildings, but because of you.

You are the living stones.

You are the disciples.

You are the "little flowers" blooming where God has planted you.

And now, as we look ahead, we embark on a mission both spiritual and physical:

- To rebuild and renew our parish spiritually
- To rebuild and restore our parish buildings physically
- To strengthen our community in faith, hope, and charity
- To continue bringing Christ to others through our witness, worship, and works of mercy.

This will take courage, sacrifice, patience, and trust—but it will also bring abundant grace. St. Theresa herself once said, "I will spend my heaven doing good on earth." I firmly believe she is interceding for us, guiding us, and walking with us into the future God desires for this parish.

You Are a Gift to This Parish

I truly cannot thank God enough for you.

Your love, your generosity, your perseverance, and your faith make this parish shine. You are the reason St. Theresa Parish is alive, vibrant, and hopeful. You are the reason people feel welcome, loved, and cared for. You are the reason our parish will continue to flourish.

In all sincerity of heart, I say to you: *You are the true flowers blooming in Hellertown.*

May Christ Jesus, the Lord of our parish, continue to strengthen, protect, and guide us.

May St. Theresa shower her roses of grace upon our families.

May the Holy Spirit lead us boldly into the next 100 years—renewed, united, and on fire with God's love.

With my prayers, my gratitude, and my affection as your parish priest,

Fr. John Anthony Hutta II

St. Theresa of the Child Jesus Parish, Hellertown, PA

Advent / Christmas Schedule

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

Christmas Day - Thursday, December 25

(Holy Day of Obligation)

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



Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God

(Holy Day of Obligation)

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

Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God
Thursday, January 1

Mass 9:00am

Devotional Candles for the Week of December 7

Sanctuary Candle

Elaine Donnelly
(offered by Tom & Pat Wiley)

St. Theresa Candle

Marie & Bob Gori
(offered by Kettering family)

BVM Candle

Special Intention
(offered by Jim Altimare)

St. Joseph Candle

John Micklus
(offered by Mary Ann & Keith Micklus)

Little Flower Society Enrollments

Becca Leon
(enrolled by mom, Mary Frances)

Alexis Leon
(enrolled by mom, Mary Frances)

St. Theresa Memorial Enrollments

Alexander M. Leon
(enrolled by wife, Mary Frances)

Charles Bartolet
(enrolled by Earl & Erika Hill)

Sarah Chaffier
(enrolled by Megan Anne Stull &
Greg Hoobler)

Charles Bartolet
(enrolled by Jack & Carol Stork)

Sarah "Sally" Chaffier
(enrolled by Frank & Grace Zajacik)

Sarah "Sally" Chaffier
(enrolled by Thomas & Linda Harris)

Closing Celebration of the Jubilee Year of Hope

Sunday, December 28, 2:00pm
Cathedral of St. Catharine of Siena
1825 W Turner St, Allentown

The program will include a presentation
of Vivaldi's "Gloria" and a narrative tour
of the Cathedral Church. Confessions will
be heard from 2:00pm to 3:00pm, and
will be followed by a closing Mass
celebrated by Bishop Schlert.

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 shop for goodies made with love.



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, 9:00am to 11:00 and/or from 4:00pm - 6:00pm.

St. Monica Ministry Holy Hour and 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.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

A Christmas Open House

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

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.

Please pick up a Reverse Advent calendar in the church vestibule, and help the Good Samaritan Society to assist those in our community who are in need.

We are in particular need of breakfast items, snack foods, canned/boxed potatoes, soup, coffee/cocoa, mustard, ketchup, salad dressing, and baking supplies.

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.

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. 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.*



HAVE YOU PRAYED THE ROSARY TODAY?



The **Divine Mercy Cenacle** meets for prayer, reflection, and discussion on the writings of St. Maria Faustina. We gather in the Church on the 2nd Monday of the month at 7:00pm. Our next meeting will be **December 8**. For information, call Felicia Wallach at 610-442-2247.

The collection total for November 29/30 will be published next week. Thank you for your generosity!

THIS WEEK AT ST. THERESA PRESCHOOL

Blessed Thanksgiving from St. Theresa's Preschool. We give thanks to God for each of our families and pray your celebrations are filled with His goodness.



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

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