

August Fest 2026

Another August Fest is in the books! Our committee met this past week for our wrap-up meeting, and there is certainly plenty to celebrate.

I want to begin by thanking all of our committee chairs and members who work so hard, sometimes behind the scenes and sometimes very much in front of them, to make August Fest a success. You are a large part of the reason we are able to continue running a smooth and successful festival. Thank you as well to the many volunteers (too many to name) who pitch in at various times and on various days. Many of you help during multiple times and multiple days to make sure things run smoothly. It is noticed and appreciated. And, of course, thank you to everyone who came out and enjoyed the weekend. Without you, we'd just have a big tent with me standing under it by myself!! Your participation is what makes August Fest such a special part of our parish community and one of the many reasons I am so blessed to be a part of this parish.

Like every summer weekend, we had plenty of things competing for people's time. Still, we were blessed with a great crowd this year. Financially, we were successful as well, bringing in just over \$28,000. A significant portion of those funds should be able to help with the future work needed on our church parking lot.

But the picnic is about more than the money we raise.

The parish is where the Church lives. Our picnic gives us a wonderful opportunity to put that into action - to work together, meet fellow parishioners we might not otherwise see, and simply enjoy being part of the same faith community. For one weekend each summer, our parish grounds become a place where people of all ages come together, and that is something worth preserving.

One of the things we discussed at our wrap-up meeting was how we can continue this tradition into the future. August Fest has grown significantly since it began more than 40 years ago and making sure it continues for the next 40 years will require new people to get involved. Our committee members and longtime volunteers are dedicated, and many take on multiple responsibilities to make the picnic happen. We need to continue bringing new people into the effort so that the tradition can continue to grow.

When I joined St. Therese just over a decade ago, one of the things that drew me to the parish was its sense of community. August Fest was one of the shining examples of that. As I reflect on this year's picnic, I am grateful for everyone who gave their time, talent and energy to make it happen. Every year I meet new people. I learn new things. I create new memories that I look back upon and smile. I hope that everyone who was part of the weekend - be it volunteering, serving on the committee, or simply coming out to enjoy it - can share that same sense of pride and affection for our parish.

For those who would like to look back on the weekend, I have put together a photo album with pictures from throughout the setup, picnic and cleanup. It will be available in the back of church for the next few weeks and in the parish office afterwards. Please take a look and see if you spot yourself!

And now, before we know it, we'll be talking about next year's picnic. Please mark your calendars for August 14-15, 2027. In the coming months, please consider getting involved, perhaps just a little more than you have in the past. This is your picnic. If you have ideas, suggestions or feedback, please let me or another committee member know. And if you feel called to get more involved, we'd love to have you. The commitment does not have to be huge, but the impact you have can be immense.

August Fest belongs to all of us. Let's keep it going.

Nick Leair
General Co-Chair



St. Therese Parish

ACH OPTION FOR TITHING

As an alternative to using your tithing envelopes, St. Therese Parish has an ACH also known as Automated Clearing House withdrawal of funds option available to our parishioners. This option allows your tithe to be made to the Parish automatically. You choose the amount to be transferred from your account at your financial institution on a monthly or semi-monthly basis. You will be notified when the withdrawals will begin. You will also continue to receive envelopes as a way of maintaining our address data base. **Questions should be directed to the Parish office 715-359-2421.** This option is initiated by completing the authorization for below.

Direct Debit Authorization Form

I (we) hereby authorize St. Therese Parish to initiate debit entries to my checking or savings account at the financial institution listed below, and, if necessary, initiate adjustments for any transactions debit/credited in error. This authority will remain in effect until St. Therese is notified by me (us) in writing to cancel it.

(Parishioner Name)

(Parishioner Address)

(Name of Financial Institution)

(Address of Financial Institution- Branch, City, State and Zip)

Checking Account Number: _____
- - OR - -

Savings Account Number: _____

Financial Institution Routing Number: _____
(Look between these symbols |: :| on the bottom left of your check)

(Signature)

(Date)

Amount of Tithing Per Debit

\$ _____

Frequency

☐
MONTHLY
1st of Month

☐
SEMI-MONTHLY
1st and 15th of Month

****Please attach voided check for routing verification.****
(Void deposit slip will NOT work . Thank you.)