

St. Therese Parish

113 W Kort Street, Rothschild

First Sunday of Lent



The Temptation in the Wilderness

Parish Contacts

Pastor: Rev. Janusz Kowalski, PhD

Emergency Only Cell #

715-456-1450

Email: jakkowalski2006@yahoo.com

Assoc. Pastor: Fr. Balraj Thotta-Saminathan

Email: frtsbalraj@gmail.com

Parish Office: 715-359-2421

Secretary: JoAnne Fraedrich

secretary@sttheresecc.org

Bookkeeper: Ross Larson

bookkeeper@sttheresecc.org

Music Coordinator: Lynn

Hildebrandt 715-527-1903

Gate of Heaven Cemetery:

715-574-0598

Bulletin articles: Please send to:

bulletin@sttheresecc.org

Deadline: Tues. by noon

Mass Assignments

Weekend: Feb 28 & March 1

Second Sunday of Lent

Lectors:

5:30 pm Pat

10:00 am JoAnne

Extraordinary Ministers:

5:30 pm Juli & John, Pat

10:00 am JoAnne, Liz, Steve W.

Servers:

5:30 pm Vivienne

10:00 am Andrew, Will

Ushers:

5:30 pm Rich, Larry, Bob, Barb

10:00 am (Group 3) John D, Scott G, Phil H, Tony S

Prayer Chain

Call Linda Narloch : 715-355-1806

A "prayer chain" is individual members that are "linked" by prayer, and requests that make their way from one person to another, following the "chain." In a prayer chain, each link represents one person committed to pray for the needs of others.

Mass Schedule

Feb. 24, Tuesday

Confession 7:30 am / Mass 8:00 am

+ Florian & Gladys Brzezinski & Florian Bradfish

Feb. 25, Wednesday

Confession 7:30 am/ Mass 8:00 am

+ The Parish Family

Feb 27, Friday (During Lent)

Confession 11:30 am/ Mass Noon

+Mary Helen Wrycha

Feb. 28, Saturday

Confession 10:00 am / Mass 5:30 pm

+ Jack & Delores Heilmeier

March 1, Sunday

Confession 9:30 am / Mass 10:00 am

+Will & Bill Rule

Stations of the Cross

Every Friday during Lent at 6:00 pm

Every Sunday during Lent after the 10:00 am Mass

Sanctuary Lamp

February 22-28 + Lynn Griffin

Adoration

Adoration in the Chapel every Tuesday, Wednesday & Thurs from 8:00 am - 8:00 pm. If you would like to volunteer for adoration, Please call Janet Juonie: 715-573-0134

Religious Education

DRE: Steve Martin

officeofreligiouseducation@sttheresecc.org

Faith Formation /CCD classes are on Wednesday evenings from

6:30 pm-7:45 pm

Pastor's Message

By Fr. Janusz Kowalski

I Sunday of Lent 2026

As we experience the First Sunday of Lent, the Liturgy of the Word invites us to reflection and a transformation of our hearts. Let us ask at the very beginning—what is Lent, how should we understand it, and how can we participate in and live it well?

According to Christian tradition, it is a 40-day period of penance, conversion, and preparation for the Easter holidays. It begins on Ash Wednesday and ends before the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Maundy Thursday. This time symbolizes Jesus' 40-day fast in the desert and encompasses prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. This event references the past and becomes visible in the present; this is how we experience the Word of God contained in the Bible.

Jesus' fast in the desert draws on specific symbolism: forty days and forty nights refer to the punishment of the Great Flood; the forty days and forty nights Moses spent on Mount Sinai, neither eating nor drinking, praying to God for the people before delivering the Ten Commandments and God's Law; and Elijah, who spent forty days and forty nights journeying to Mount Horeb to meet the Lord. It also recalls Israel dwelling and wandering in the desert on the way to the Promised Land.

In today's Gospel, we encounter Jesus being tempted by the devil and his firm responses. Three temptations concern us as well, involving: "cheap salvation," wealth and security, and success. How does Jesus respond to the three temptations addressed to Him? At the same time, He teaches us how we should respond to similar temptations. Jesus uses specific weapons in the struggle against Satan: Holy Scripture, communion with the Father and the Holy Spirit (reminding us we are not alone; Jesus is with us), and finally, the firm rejection of temptation and compromise.

The first temptation occurs when Jesus is hungry after fasting [1]. The devil suggests using power, but Jesus responds with words from Deuteronomy 8:3, emphasizing reliance on God's word over bread alone [1]. This relates to the Exodus narrative where fear led to distrust and rebellion until God provided food after Moses' prayer.

Parish Announcements

From Silence to Song: Be Part of Our Easter Choir!

After a long silence, our church choir is finding its voice again—and we'd love for you to be part of this beautiful new beginning. We're starting fresh with the Easter season, a time of hope, renewal, and joy. Whether you've sung in choirs before or simply love to lift your voice in praise, this is your chance to join us for a short, meaningful season of music. Try it out for Easter and see where God leads from there.

First Rehearsal: Tuesday, February 24, 6:30 PM, Choir Loft. For more information, contact Lynn at 715-527-1903.



PEW REPAIR/RE-FINISHING

Please consider helping donate to the pew refinishing project. We have established a separate capital account for any donations to help defray costs, hoping not to have to borrow. Any amount you can afford to donate would be appreciated. Checks/donations can be made out to St. Therese Parish, ATTN: Pew Repair. Reports on our monetary progress will be in our Bulletin.

Thank You

Thank you to the Social Justice crew who helped prepare a wonderful meal for the Good Shepard Shelter - Liz, Dave, John, Marie, Tina, and Natalie. I could not do it without all of your time and talent.

If anyone would like to help with a future meal - bake something or donate something please let me know.

Karen Morehouse Social Justice - St Therese
715-573-5564 kmorehouse13@hotmail.com

Please join us for Parish Potluck February 26 at noon in the church basement. Bring your favorite dish to pass and enjoy fellowship and BINGO!!



LENT

Pray + Fast + Give

Parish Office Hours

Mon- Thursday: 9:00 am-4:00 pm

Friday: 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Saturday & Sunday: CLOSED



Lent 2026

Ash Wednesday Feb. 18th Masses at 8:00 am & 6:30pm.

Every Friday during Lent (Feb 20 - March 27)

Confession at 11:30, Mass at noon

Lenten Lunch in Church Hall to follow Mass

Stations of the Cross at 6:00 pm and after the Sunday 10:00 Mass.

Friday Lenten Lunch hosted by:

Feb. 20th The Breakfast Committee

Feb. 27th The Little Flower Council

March 6th Mary's Troopers

March 13th The Pro-Life Committee

March 20th The Parish Staff

March 27th The Knights of Columbus



Breakfast



Breakfast is served after the 10:00 am Mass every 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month. Free will offerings are accepted. Enjoy good food and fellowship. Pierogi and sausage will also be sold.

Pierogi and sausage are always available for sale in the parish office

Faith Formation



Lenten Mite Boxes

All faith formation students received a Lenten Mite Box during class on February 11th. All funds will go to the Missionary Childhood Association.

Each sacrifice made, prayer raised, and coins given makes a difference in the lives of children helping children. It makes a difference in the giver by helping generosity grow. It helps the recipient by showing that someone cares about them and their faith.

Parents, please encourage your child(ren) to contribute what they can as a part of their Lenten discipline. Remind them that as they make sacrifices for children in need, they are loving Jesus.

Events Around Us

Lenten Soup Kitchen

Church of the Resurrection in Wausau will be having a "Lenten Soup Kitchen" every Wednesday from Feb. 25 - April 1 at 11:00am - 1:00pm. Free will donations are accepted and take outs are available.

"So you could not keep watch with me for one hour?" – Matthew 26:40

Why Adoration?

"During a Holy Hour our love for Jesus becomes more intimate, our love for each other more understanding, and our love for the poor more compassionate." ~ St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta

We are looking for more people to step forward and spend time during Adoration on a regular basis. If you are interested in doing so or want to learn more about Adoration, please call Janet Juonie at 715-573-0134. Everyone is always welcome to stop in and spend time with Jesus during Adoration hours.

LFC



President Janet Juonie 715-573-0134

"Over the Toes & Under the Clothes" Service Project

We are collecting socks and underwear (All sizes needed) also winter gloves and personal hygiene products for those in need in our community. All items donated must be **NEW** and in the original packaging.

Donations can be placed in small laundry baskets at the church entrances. We will collect until March 22nd. Thank you!

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February 15, 2026

	Collection	Mailed
Tithing	\$ 2,946.00	\$ 810.00
Children's envelopes	\$ 2.00	\$ 0.00
Offertory	\$ 308.00	\$ 5.00
Votives	\$ 65.00	\$ 10.00
CAPEX	\$ 60.00	\$ 0.00
Circle of Joy	\$ 10.00	\$ 0.00
Church Upkeep	\$ 50.00	\$ 0.00
Music	\$ 4.00	\$ 0.00
Holy Day	\$ 65.00	\$ 20.00
Pew Repair Project	\$ 485.00	\$ 25.00
Credit Card Tithing	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
ACH Tithing	\$ 0.00	\$ 645.00
SUB	\$ 3,995.00	\$ 1,515.00
	TOTAL \$	\$ 5,510.00

Capital Improvement Expenditure (CAPEX)

Current total to date is \$ 71,433.50

Inspired By The Spirit Campaign	
Campaign Goal:	\$ 520,000.00
Amount Received:	\$ 499,607.67
We are at 96.08% of our Goal	

Diocesan Annual Appeal	
Target Goal	\$ 71,870.00
Amount Collected	\$ 31,943.00
TOTAL Under Goal	\$ 40,882.00



Pew Repair Project	
Project Goal	\$ 120,000.00
Amount Received	\$ 18,101.00
15.1% to goal	



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Joe Coles Grand Knight

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FEBRUARY

Do you have a business that you would like to advertise here? A small black and white ad costs under \$5.00 week. A color ad is under \$7.00 per week. Please call the parish office for more information 715-359-2421

Peterson/ Kraemer

Funeral Homes & Crematory Inc.

715-845-6900

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Little Flower Council
St. Therese PCCW

Meetings on the first Monday
 of the month Sept—April
 6:30 Rosary meeting to follow

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Pray forPeace

Pray theRosary



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