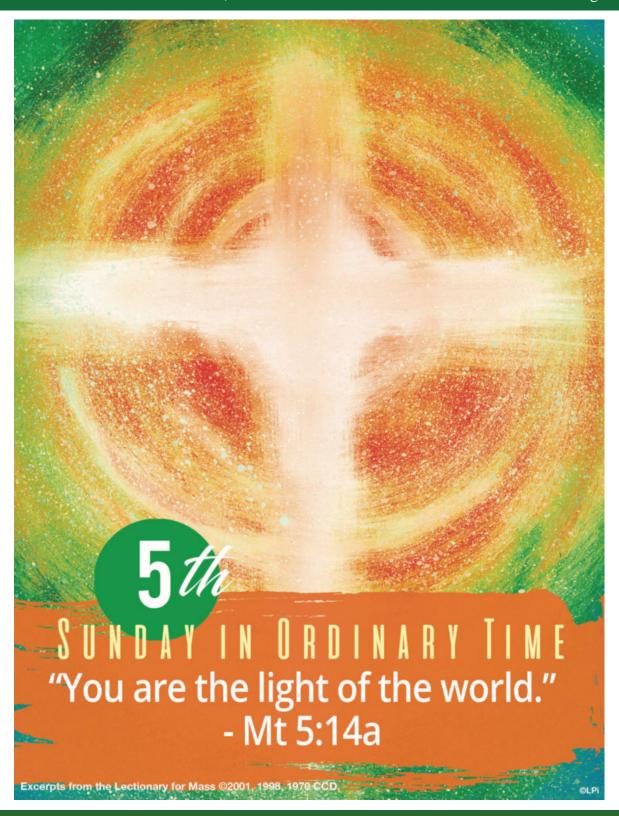
Saint Therese of Lisieux Parish

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MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY: FEBRUARY 4

4:00 Frank Moles

Requested by Sr. Ann Moles, SSND

4:00 Matthew Hayes

Requested by the Hayes Family

SUNDAY: FEBRUARY 5

7:30 For the People of the Parish

9:30 Victoria Buencamino Requested by Leo Buencamino

9:30 Emma & Vincent Haggerty
Requested by Kathy Jaeger

11:30 Mary Ann Gallivan

Requested by Louise Karach & Family
11:30 Pablo Salazar
Requested by Michele Kreisel

MONDAY: FEBRUARY 6

8:30 William Guzzi

Requested by his wife Florence & the Guzzi/Carlesimo Family

8:30 Joseph O'Dea Requested by Mary Whelan & Family

TUESDAY: FEBRUARY 7

8:30 Gabriel Falla

Requested by his daughter, Ana

8:30 John Gazzola Requested by Evelyn Calagna

WEDNESDAY: FEBRUARY 8

8:30 Anna O'Neil

Requested by the McCollum Family

8:30 Ante Radovcic
Requested by The Rodovich Family

THURSDAY: February 9

8:30 Genna Renee Cabrini Lucibello Requested by Mom, Dad & Family

8:30 Joseph O'Dea Requested by Mary & Family

FRIDAY: February 10

8:30 Gaetano Naccarella

Requested by The Scofield Family

8:30 Cathleen Fernan (living) Requested by Cynthia Fernan

PRAY FOR THE SICK

Pamela Ryan Alusick Richard C. Barretta Marvann Barzelatto JoAnn Bussa Carole Cicio Anne Diggins Janet De Felice Kathy Foley Maureen Frazer Kvle Geran Pat Geran Joan Henry Arian Hila Anna Holohan John P. Holohan Jeremiah Kissane Sonia Laurent Lenore Liebeskind

Mike Loiacono

Carmela Marti

Ed Naso Mary Ann Naso Gary Natale Joanne Nicastro Lea Ann Nicolich Grace O'Gorman Albert Pineda Angelo Porcaro Nancy Porcaro Bob Prince, Jr. **Quinn Rosa** Anthony Ruffino Maria Sanchez Farrah Seguinot Theresa Spola Cayden Tansey Vincent Tripodi Diane Voltolina Donald Wuertz, Jr.

SERVING IN THE MILITARY

As a family, we pray for our parishioners and their relatives who are currently on active duty in the military.

Matthew Agrusti U.S. Marines Austin Cardo U.S. Army U.S. Marines Justin Greenberg Gavin John U.S. Marines Matt John U.S. Marines Cody McGrath U.S. Marines Mario Medina U.S. Marines Christopher D. Smith U.S. Army

MASS SCHEDULE

Daily 8:30am

Saturday 4:00pm

Sunday

7:30am

9:30am

11:30am

Holy Days

7:00pm Vigil 8:30am 12:00pm

RECONCILIATION

Saturday 3-3:30pm or by appointment

SERVED BY THE CARMELITES

Pastor

Fr. Samuel Citero, O. Carm.

Parochial Vicar

Fr. Michael Joyce, O. Carm.

Deacon

Rev. Mr. Anthony Porcaro, T. O. Carm.

Pastoral Associate

Ms. Gina Marie Loiacono

Catechetical Leaders

Ed Craviolo Dominica Boland

Business Manager Ms. Sharon Rabbitt

Trustee Mr. Donald Wuertz

REST IN PEACE

We pray for our loved ones who have died, especially Carmella Bonino

Catherine Ulshoefer

SACRAMENTAL BREAD & WINE

The bread and wine offered at the masses has been

donated in loving memory of

George Lacognata

at the request of his wife, Angela

SANCTUARY LAMP

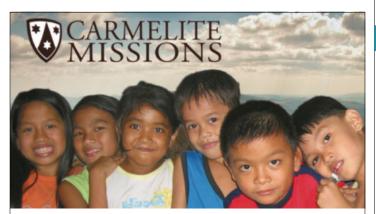
The Sanctuary Lamp burns this week in loving memory of

Genna Lucibello

at the request of Jeri & Bud







Fr. Joseph O'Brien, O. Carm, our former pastor and director of the Carmelite Missions, will preach at all of our Masses on February 11/12. Fr. Joe will speak on behalf of the desperately poor people whom Carmelites are called to serve. The missionary Carmelite Family — priests, sisters, and laity — try to help God's poor people in many mission lands throughout the world. With your prayerful and financial support of the Carmelite Missions, the missionaries can be the compassion and caring of God, the hands and heart of Jesus, to the fragile, forgotten and forsaken.



FEBRUARY EVENTS

SOUPERBOWL of Caring

We will hold a SOUP drive on Super Bowl weekend, February 11-12 Please bring cans of soup and/or cash donations with you to mass.

FEED THE HOMELESS Family Promise

Dinner to feed the homeless Sunday — February 19, 2023 Please drop off all food by 2:00pm



FEBRUARY EVENTS

Ladies Bible Sharing

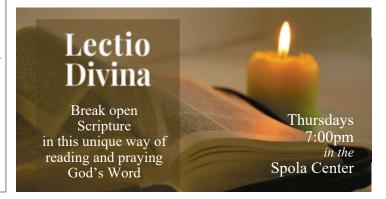
Thursdays—9:00am in the Parish Center

Lectio Divina

Thursdays — 7:00pm in the Spola Center

LENT Schedule

Coming soon



"Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven."

Matthew 5:16

The generosity of being a good steward of your gifts has a positive effect on people and it is contagious! Good works encourages more good works. Generosity is a by-product of a grateful lifestyle. The more we recognize God's gifts, the more we want to share them. Good stewards recognize that God is working through them and they don't put themselves above the people they have been called to help.

OUR SUNDAY OFFERINGS

January 15, 2023

Our Weekly Goal \$13,200.00

Regular Collection \$ 9,053.00 Assessment \$ 1,505.00

Total \$10,558.00

Please make <u>all</u> checks payable to St. Therese Church

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED GENEROSITY

To receive tax credit at years end it is important to write your envelope # on your check, envelope or online contributions!

Annual Appeal

The 2023 Annual Appeal is well underway!

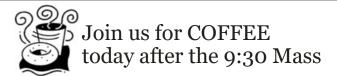
St. Therese Annual Appeal Goals:

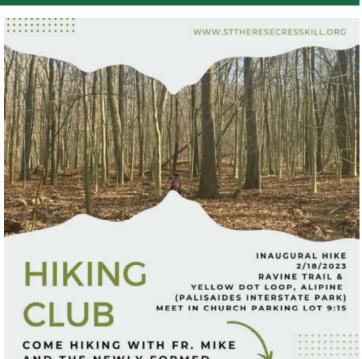
Base Goal of our Parish is \$52,649.00 Stretch Goal of our Parish is \$65,563.00

The outpouring of support from many parishioners like you helps sustain the important ministries across the Archdiocese of Newark. These programs help to make our own parish a more vibrant place of worship. If you have yet to give, please pick up a pledge form at the back of the church, visit *rcan.org/sharing* or scan the QR code.

Thank you for your prayers & support.







AND THE NEWLY FORMED ST. THERESE HIKING CLUB



ADDITIONAL TRAIL INFORMATION



If ...

It's a surprising little word — if. For such a short word, it holds an abundance of excuses.

Personally, I could buy a new car if I had a dollar for every time I used the word "if" to explain away my own flaws. "If I wasn't so tired. If we had more money. If the kids weren't always on my last nerve.

If I had more talent. If life wasn't so hard."

If, if, if.

I don't always feel like being the salt of the earth. Can't someone else season the dish? Sometimes it's more than I want to give, more than I want to do, more than I want to be. Sharing my bread, sheltering the oppressed, clothing the naked, and accompanying my neighbor — doing these things in the literal or figurative sense can be completely exhausting.

Mediocrity is so easy. It's so comfortable.

But if. It looms again, that short but powerful word.

"If' can be deep with excuses, but it can also be wide with possibility. If I bring it all to God. If I stop relying on my own abilities. If I prayed more than I talked.

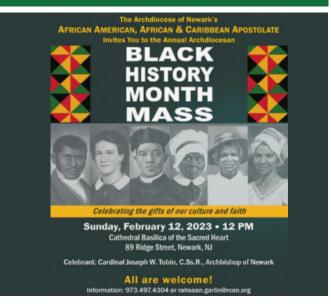
If I make my heart firm.

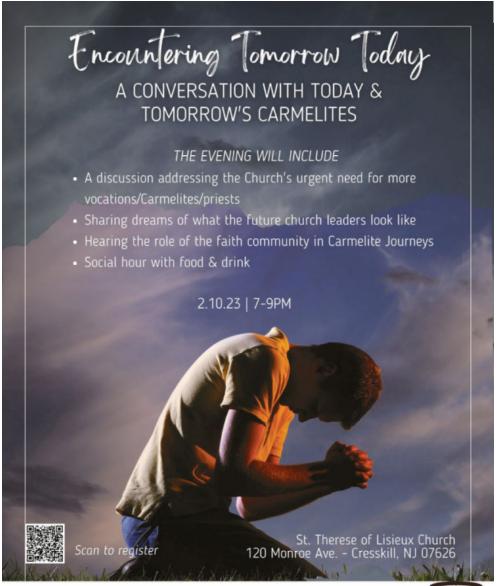
If my faith does not rest on human wisdom.

If not me, who? If not now, when?

"You are the light of the world. A city set on a mountain cannot be hidden." — Matthew 5:14





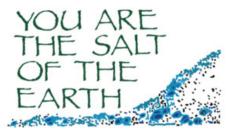


WE NEED YOU

If you, or someone you know, is interested in becoming a Minister of the Eucharist or a Lector, please contact Gina Marie or call the Parish Office for more information.



We would love to have you join us on our mission to serve others! Our Social Concerns and Outreach Ministry needs you. Anyone interested in special monthly collections, events or outreach projects that help serve the poor and vulnerable - please contact Gina Marie or call the Parish Office.



Were you afraid of the dark as a child? Are there little ones (or even "grown-ups") in your life who can't stand being left in a room with no lights?

If so, you might be happy to know that science has some insights to offer. Centuries and millennia ago, our ancestors lived in a world in which darkness was a time when people were especially vulnerable. In order to stay safe outside of the small ring of light that a fire or, later a lamp might provide, human beings developed what would become an innate fear of the dark. It's perfectly reasonable, if we stop and think about what was at stake. While there have been numerous studies and articles about this in the last decade, science writer Josh Hrala summed things up in an article for sciencealert.com: "Our ancestors were constantly on the look-out for predators that wanted nothing more than to chow down on human sandwiches. To make that even scarier, most of these predators hunted at night – a time of day when we are especially vulnerable to attack because of our relatively poor eyesight." He continues, "Over the years, this nightly fear became instinctual, and we still experience it today as a form of mild anxiety."

This danger of darkness remained in force until the modern era when streetlights and flood lights began to push away the darkness more effectively than anything that we ever had before. But there still remains, in each of us, a certain fear of what may be lurking just beyond the reach of the light or hiding in the shadows. Ultimately, fear of the dark is a fear of the unknown.

In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus uses the image of salt and light to remind his followers of what they — we — are called to be in and for the world. Part of this means that we are called to live lives that, like salt and light, enhance the "flavor" of the world and dispel the darkness of fear and doubt.

We can see what this looks like when we think of so many of the great saints of our faith tradition. Saint Francis of Assisi certainly embodied this ideal in his willingness to commit his life wholeheartedly to living out the demands of Gospel poverty and joy in an age when the Church was becoming more and more mired in bureaucracy and the quest for power. With his band of "Lesser Brothers," the light of Francis' faith and the "salt" of his joy brightened and enhanced the world in which he lived.

At the heart of Jesus' message and Francis' mission is love.

Certainly, this means our experience of God's love and our love for God. But, on a more practical level, this means the love that we show to one another. The first reading this Sunday brings this point home, as we hear these words from the Prophet Isaiah:

Share your bread with the hungry,
shelter the oppressed and the homeless;
clothe the naked when you see them,
and do not turn your back on your own.
Then your light shall break forth like the dawn...
If you remove from your midst
oppression, false accusation and malicious speech,
if you bestow your bread on the hungry
and satisfy the afflicted;
then light shall rise for you in the darkness,
and the gloom shall become for you like midday.

This is what love looks like and when we reflect on all of the act of mercy Isaiah describes, we can see how these good works—expressions of our love—can help drive away the ugliness, fear, and yes, darkness that brings grief, despair and death into the world.

In the end, the liturgy this Sunday is reminding us that we don't have to be afraid of the dark any longer. If we have love—and live that love—then the light of Christ that we carry within us will drive away the darkness of fear and sadness.

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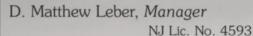
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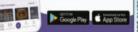
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