**DECEMBER 17, 2023** 

# WORSHIP AID AND BULLETIN

ST. THERESA CATHOLIC CHURCH & SCHOOL

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

"My soul rejoices in my God." Isaiah: 61:10



We are so glad you are here.

On behalf of myself, Fr. Barry Cuba, and our entire staff, welcome to St. Theresa Catholic Church and School. We hope you will consider this to be your parish home.

-Reverend Larry Covington, Pastor



ST-THERESA.ORG



follow us!



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@sttaustin

Welcome to St. Theresa Catholic Church and School! We are thrilled you're here to join us in worship this weekend. If you would like to be part of a lively and dynamic family of Christians, welcome home!

- · COFFEE & DONUTS | Whether you are new to St. Theresa or a seasoned parishioner who wants to get connected, we invite you to join us for coffee and donuts after 9 AM Mass to meet members of our faith community.
- NURSERY | Children are always welcome at Mass. For your convenience, we have a nursery in the Family Center that cares for children ages 6 mos. - 3 yrs. during the 9 and 11:00 AM Sunday Masses. It opens for drop off 15 minutes before Mass.
- LITURGY OF THE WORD WITH CHILDREN | During the school year, we offer a special Liturgy of the Word with Children during the 9:00 AM Mass.





### FORGETTETH THEE ENVELOPE?

### MAKE YOUR WEEKLY OFFERING TODAY



Scan this QR code or donate online at: st-theresa.org

# Christmas Mass Schedule

JOIN US

#### December 24

Fourth Sunday of Advent Masses 7:30 AM & 10:00 AM Christmas Vigil Masses 4:00 PM Mass Gym Overflow (Video) 6:30 PM Mass

#### December 25

**Christmas Masses** 12:00 AM Midnight Mass 10:00 AM Mass



### INTRODUCTORY RITES

#### **Entrance Hymn** — On Jordan's Bank

Please stand



Text: Jordanis oras praevia; Charles Coffin, 1676–1749; tr. by John Chandler, 1806–1876, alt. Tune: WINCHESTER NEW, LM; adapt. from Musikalisches Handbuch, Hamburg, 1690

#### Invocation

### Lighting of the Advent Wreath

#### **Penitential Act**

Kyrie, Roman Missal, arr. Carbonell

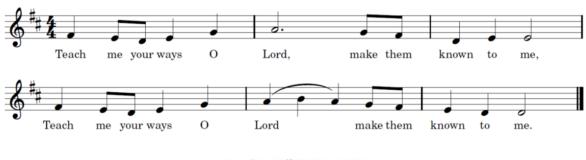


Olive Tree Music. Roman Missal Mass © Copyright 2022 by Francisco Carbonell

#### Collect

# THE LITURGY of the WORD

Children's Liturgy of the Word – Teach Me Your Ways O Lord, Stevens/Henderson (9:00)





#### **First Reading –** *Isaiah 61:1-2a, 10-11*

The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me; he has sent me to bring glad tidings to the poor, to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and release to the prisoners, to announce a year of favor from the LORD and a day of vindication by our God.

I rejoice heartily in the LORD, in my God is the joy of my soul; for he has clothed me with a robe of salvation and wrapped me in a mantle of justice, like a bridegroom adorned with a diadem, like a bride bedecked with her jewels. As the earth brings forth its plants, and a garden makes its growth spring up, so will the Lord GOD make justice and praise spring up before all the nations.

#### Responsorial Psalm - Lk 1:46-50, 53-54



My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord; my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has looked upon his lowly servant. From this day all generations will call me blessed: **R**.

He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent away empty. He has come to the help of his servant Israel for he has remembered his promise of mercy, *R*.

The Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his Name. He has mercy on those who fear him in every generation. *R*.

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#### **Second Reading -** 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing. In all circumstances give thanks, for this is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus. Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise prophetic utterances. Test everything; retain what is good. Refrain from every kind of evil. May the God of peace make you perfectly holy and may you entirely, spirit, soul, and body, be preserved blameless for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will also accomplish it.



The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me Verse: to bring glad tidings to the poor.

#### **Gospel -** *John* 1:6-8, 19-28

A man named John was sent from God. He came for testimony, to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but came to testify to the light. And this is the testimony of John. When the Jews from Jerusalem sent priests and Levites to him to ask him, "Who are you?" He admitted and did not deny it, but admitted, "I am not the Christ." So they asked him, "What are you then? Are you Elijah?" And he said, "I am not." "Are you the Prophet?" He answered, "No." So they said to him, "Who are you, so we can give an answer to those who sent us? What do you have to say for yourself?" He said: "I am the voice of one crying out in the desert, 'make straight the way of the Lord," as Isaiah the prophet said." Some Pharisees were also sent. They asked him, "Why then do you baptize if you are not the Christ or Elijah or the Prophet?" John answered them, "I baptize with water; but there is one among you whom you do not recognize, the one who is coming after me, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to untie." This happened in Bethany across the Jordan, where John was baptizing.

Homily Please sit

#### Apostles' Creed Please stand

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible. I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven,

(All bow for the following words) and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate,

he suffered death and was buried,

in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.

and rose again on the third day

I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

#### The Prayer of the Faithful

Please sit Announcements

# THE LITURGY of the EUCHARIST

**Offertory Anthem** *The Peace to Come,* Karen Marolli (Sat, 5 PM)

Climb to the Top of the Highest Mountain, Carolyn Jennings (Sun, 9 AM)

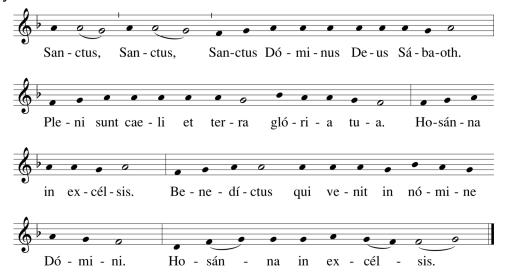
My Soul Doth Magnify the Lord, Michael Praetorious (Sun, 11 AM)

#### **Prayer over the Offerings**

#### **Invitation to Prayer**

Please stand

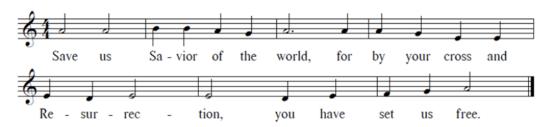
Holy, Holy - Sanctus, Vatican Edition XVIII



Music: Vatican Edition XVIII; acc. by Richard Proulx

Please kneel

**Mystery of Faith** – *Mass of St Theresa*, Covington



Great Amen - chant

Please stand



# THE COMMUNION RITE

Lord's Prayer Sign of Peace

#### Lamb of God – Agnus Dei, Vatican Edition XVIII



Music: Vatican Edition XVIII; acc. by Richard Proulx

#### Please kneel

#### **Communion Antiphon –** *St. Meinrad Communion Antiphon,* Columba Kelly, OSB



#### Communion Hymn-The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came (Sat, 5 PM and Sun, 9 AM)

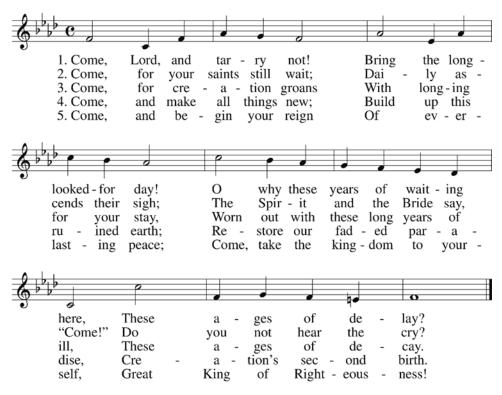


Text: Basque carol; para. by Sabine Baring-Gould, 1834–1924, alt. Tune: GABRIEL'S MESSAGE, 10 10 12 10; Basque carol; harm. by Charles E. Pettman, 1865–1943

Please stand

## THE CONCLUDING RITES

**Hymn of Thanksgiving -** *Come, Lord, and Tarry Not!* 



Text: Revelation 22:17, attr. to Horatius Bonar, alt., 1808–1889 Tune: ST. BRIDE, SM; Samuel Howard, 1710–1782

#### **Blessing and Dismissal**

**Organ Postlude -** *Passacaglia in C minor* BWV 582, J.S. Bach



# THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT



#### **WEEKEND MASS**

SATURDAY VIGIL: 5:00 PM SUNDAY: 7:30 AM, 9:00 AM\*, 11:00 AM \*livestream on YouTube

#### **DAILY MASS**

11:30 AM MONDAY-FRIDAY

#### **RECONCILIATION**

SATURDAY 4:00 PM\*

\*or by appointment

#### **ADORATION**

FRIDAY: NOON-1:00 PM

#### **ANOINTING OF THE SICK**

If you or a family-member is: seriously ill, will have major surgery, or is in danger of death, please contact the office at: 512-451-5121.

#### WEEKLY SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Weekends of 12/16-17 K of C Nut Sales After all Masses

Sun, 12/17 Liturgy of the Word With Children 9:00 AM Mass, Family Center

Sun, 12/17 Coffee & Donuts After 9:00 AM Mass, Family Center

Mon, 12/18 Dinner and Decorating Church for Christmas (free event)
5:00 PM, Church

Wed, 12/20 Men's Catalyst 6:00 AM, Family Center

Wed, 12/20 Bridge Games 12:30 PM, Family Center

Thu, 12/22 Church Office Closes at 12 PM

# DAILY READINGS AND MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, December 16         Sir 48:1-4, 9-11       Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19       Mt 17:9a, 10-13         5:00 PM	
Sunday, December 17 THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT Is 61:1-2a, 10-11 (Ps) Lk 1:46-50, 53-54 1 Thes 5:16-24 Jn 1:6-8, 19-28 7:30 AM	† oa
Monday, December 18         Jer 23:5-8       Ps 72:1-2, 12-13. 18-19       Mt 1:18-25         11:30 AM	†
<b>Tuesday, December 19</b> Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a Ps 71:3-6, 16-17 Lk 1:5-25 11:30 AMDcn. Tony Pynes, Martha Holub	†
Wednesday, December 20           Is 7:10-14         Ps 24:1-6         Lk 1:26-38           11:30 AM	es
Thursday, December 21 Saint Peter Canisius, Priest, Doctor of the Church Sg 2:8-14 Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21 Lk 1:39-45 11:30 AMWalter & Emily Tacquard, Timothy J. O'Neill	†
<b>Friday, December 22</b> 1 Sm 1:24-28 (Ps) 1 Sm 2:1, 4-7, 8abcd Lk 1:46-56 11:30 AMAnna Marie Thompson †, Melissa Perez	†
Saturday, December 23 Saint John of Kanty, Priest Mal 3:1-4, 23-24 Ps 25:4b-5b, 8-10, 14 Lk 1:57-66 5:00 PM	†
Sunday, December 24 FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16 Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29 Rom 16:25-27 Lk 1:26-38 7:30 AM	† .h
THE VIGIL OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD Is 9:1-6 Ps 96:1-3, 11-13 Ti 2:11-14 Lk 2:1-14 4:00 PMMary Lou Gwynn †, Teri Olsen 6:30 PMNeil Martin †, Caroline Pennant-Jones	†
Monday, December 25 THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD Is 52:7-10 Ps 98:1-6 Heb 1:1-6 Jn 1:1-5, 9-14 12:00 AMEsperanza Perez †, Caroline Pennant-Jones 10:00 AMMelissa Perez †, Robert Perez	

# PARISH NEWS & EVENTS

#### **KC | HOLIDAY NUT SALE**

Weekend of 12/16 Before and After Mass
Would you like some fresh pecans for
your holiday baking? How about some
delicious chocolate goodies to gift? The
Knights of Columbus will be selling
locally-grown nuts from San Saba, Texas
for holiday cooking and presents after
Masses this weekend. Please support our
Knights of Columbus and their local
charities in this last weekend of their nut sale!





# LIKE SINGING CHRISTMAS CAROLS?

Wednesday, 12/20, 6:00 PM, Family Center

Like singing Christmas Carols? Singing is the best way to spread Christmas cheer, after all! We invite you to join the Pew Choir in the Family Center on

Wednesdays at 6:00 PM this Advent. We will be focusing on music for the

season and brushing off the caroling cobwebs. All are welcome to improve your singing voice during this season of joy! Come sing with us! See you Wednesday! No RSVP is needed.

### MEET THE STAFF

#### Leigh Thering Graphic Designer

We are happy to welcome Leigh Thering to the communications team. Leigh and her family have been parishioners for just under a year and this fall her son, River (3), joined Mrs. Vela's STCS Pre-K 3 class.

Leigh grew up in Harveys Lake, PA where she attended St. Mary Byzantine Catholic School (Wilkes-Barre, PA). She continued her studies at Lehigh University (BA Journalism) aned F.I.T. in New York City (BFA Graphic Design).

When not designing for St. Theresa or helping out in the Pre-K 3 classroom, Leigh also volunteers her services for The Arc Capital Area and provides brand strategy and design for local business owners as a freelance designer.



Pictured:Leigh, River (3), Deacon Peter, Owen (1) and Daniel Thering

A former professional ballet dancer and educator, Leigh frequents theatrical and artistic events. She also enjoys crafting, gardening, keeping up with her busy boys; and reading and collecting books. A copy of *The New Yorker* magazine is never far from her reach.

Having worked in publishing and public relations for the likes of the Huffington Post and Conde Nast, Leigh is excited to unveil a fresh new bulletin redesign early this upcoming New Year as well as a fresh roster of Lenten promotions.

#### **NURSERY CLOSURES**

December 24th and 31st

Please note that the Sunday Nursery for children will be closed on December 24th and 31st to allow our staff to spend time with their families. We will be back and ready to love on your little ones on January 7.

#### **CONNECTIONS CHRISTMAS BREAK**

Please note that there will be no Tuesday 6:45 PM women's Connections meeting for the rest of December to give our parish women time to do all of the Advent hustle and bustle! We will resume our meetings on **Tuesday, January 9** with a new study called <u>Habits for Holiness</u> by Fr. Mark-Mary Ames. Please order a copy of the book and read Chapter One for this meeting! For more information, contact Francetherese101@gmail.com.

#### **CATALYST HOLIDAY SCHEDULE**

December 20, 27, and January 3

The men of Catalyst will be on holiday break the weeks of December 20, 27 and January 3. We will start the year with a new series from "The Science of Sainthood." Joining 80 other Catholic men in fellowship is a great way to start 2024! For more information about Catalyst, contact MenofCatalyst@gmail.com.

#### **CHURCH OFFICE HOLIDAY HOURS**

Friday, 12/22, week of 12/25

Please note that the church office will be closed the afternoon of Friday, 12/22 and the week of 12/25-29. We hope our employees enjoy this period of rest with their families! Mass will still be celebrated during this time.

#### **NEWLYWED SOCIAL**

Friday, 1/19, 5:30-7:30 PM, Private Home

Please join the marriage team from St. Theresa Church at a Newlywed Social! Ongoing marriage enrichment is so important for couples who want to live a God-centered marriage. This is an opportunity to meet some other newlyweds, have fellowship, cocktails/mocktails, appetizers, and enjoy some time reconnecting with your sponsor couple if you did your marriage preparation here. All are welcome; no matter where you were married! Please RSVP to Amy-Allert@st-theresa.org for address.

#### **WELCOMED IN BAPTISM**

God bless Ada Jo Anderson!

### **STEWARDSHIP**

#### **GRATITUDE**

As we come to the end of 2023, we would like to thank you for your generous gifts of time, talent, and treasure that have supported the ministries and mission of St. Theresa. The love shown through financial support is very much appreciated.

Many parishioners continue to ask how they can help our parish as the year comes to a close. Advent is the perfect time to give a gift in honor of Christ's birth! Beyond the tax deduction, your decision to share your treasure before December 31st, builds and strengthens the church as we move forward. Please connect with the Stewardship Office if you have any questions about IRA tax distributions, planned gifts, or end of year stock gifts to ensure you finish the year doing all you can to impactfully prepare your parish community for the new year.

# School Advisory Board Nominations

The St. Theresa Catholic School Advisory Board seeks 3 new members from the parish (non-school parents) to provide strategic counsel to the board. Of particular interest and need are parishioners that have experience in:

- Advancement/Strategic Development
- Marketing/Communications/Sales
- Non-profit Sector/Executive Director

If you would like to nominate someone from our parish or self-nominate, please email Board Chair, Ramsey Abarca ra@ramseyabarca.com with your contact information. Thank you for your consideration.

Andrea Bizzanelli | Stewardship Office

# AROUND THE DIOCESE

# ST. DOMENIC SAVIO VISITING OPPORTUNITIES

January 12 & 26, 2024 (8:30 – 10:30 AM) April 12, 2024 (8:30 – 10:30 am)

St. Dominic Savio Catholic High School is a co-education college preparatory school that offers an extensive curriculum to satisfy a variety of student academic and extracurricular interests. Prospective parents are invited to attend one of our Parent Information Sessions to learn more about our school, enjoy a student-led tour of our beautiful campus and hear about our admission process. To register for an information session and other visiting opportunities go to our website: saviochs.org or contact Holly Bologna, Director of Admissions at 512-388-8846 ext. 5504.

#### **REST IN ME RETREAT**

January 19-21, 2024, Cedarbrake in Temple Rest in Me, a weekend retreat, will be offered Jan. 19-21 at Cedarbrake Catholic Retreat Center in Temple. This retreat is a weekend of rest for moms/female caregivers of children with physical, mental, or intellectual disabilities and/or chronic medical issues. This weekend is a time for each caregiver to share and find strength in each other and God. Mass, adoration plus praise and worship will be part of the retreat. Cost: \$225 for a private room; \$200 for a shared room; \$100 for commuters. For more information.





### **CHEER SQUAD**

STCS Middle School students (6th through 8th grade) make up our Cheerleading squad. This year's squad is the largest ever, with 40 members! These girls work hard to bring spirit to our school via pep rallies, special programs, spirit nights, classroom visits, and being excellent role models for the younger Tigers. We are so proud of their work and all they bring to our school. Go Tigers!

St. Theresa Catholic School is a 2023
National Blue Ribbon School, serving
students PK-3 through 8th grade. For more
information about our school, please reach
out to Susie Thompson in Admissions at
<a href="mailto:sthompson@st-theresa.org">sthompson@st-theresa.org</a> or visit
<a href="mailto:www.st-theresa.org">www.st-theresa.org</a>.

A FESTIVE AND FUN VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY!

# Dinner and Decorating the Church



#### TOMORROW/ MONDAY

December 18 | 5:00 PM

Dinner and Decorating the Church

We have all the supplies, we just need your helping hands to make our church look extra spectacular this holiday season. No need to RSVP, all are welcome! Pizza and drinks will be provided in the Family Center.



# Christmas Mass Schedule

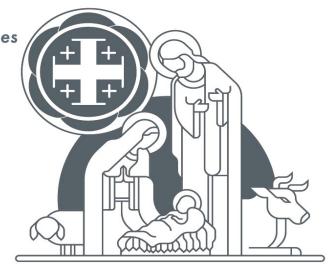
#### December 24

Fourth Sunday of Advent Masses 7:30 AM & 10:00 AM Christmas Vigil Masses 4:00 PM Mass

Gym Overflow (Video) 6:30 PM Mass

#### **December 25**

Christmas Masses 12:00 AM Midnight Mass 10:00 AM Mass



# FROM THE DIOCESE

# ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS Q&A

?

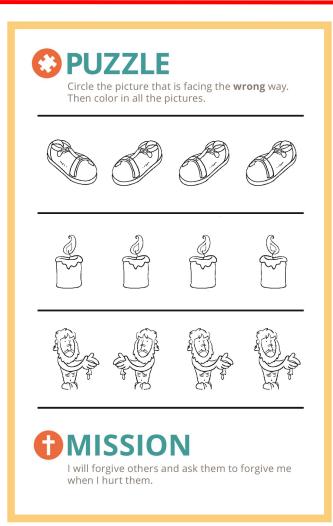
The fourth Sunday of Advent is the day before Christmas, do I have to attend mass twice?



Yes, once for the Fourth Sunday of Advent and once for Christmas. That can happen in a couple of different ways:

Attend Vigil Mass for the Fourth Sunday of Advent on the evening of the 23rd and either a Christmas Eve Vigil Mass on Sunday the 24th or Christmas Day Mass, on Monday the 25th Attend the Mass for the Fourth Sunday of Advent on Sunday morning the 24th and either a Christmas Eve Vigil Mass on Sunday the 24th or Christmas Day Mass, on Monday the 25th.

### KIDS CORNER





#### Saint Theresa Catholic Church

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Clergy

Pastor: Reverend Larry Covington

larry-covington@st-theresa.org

Associate Pastor: Reverend Barry Cuba

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Deacons:

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**Administration** 

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Communications Designer:

Leigh Thering, x1009

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Sacrament Coordinator:

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**School** 

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Admissions: Susie Thompson

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Communications Manager: Maureen Addison

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