



And the Word became flesh and made his
dwelling among us, and we saw his glory,
the glory as of the Father's only Son,
full of grace and truth.

John 1:14

The Nativity of the Lord | December 24th & 25th
The Feast of the Holy Family | December 27th



SUNDAY MASS
9:00 am, 11:30 am, & 8:00 pm
Saturday Vigil 5:30 pm

DAILY MASS
Monday - Friday 8:30 am
Saturday 8:00 am



Our Mission

Driven by the missionary zeal of St. Thérèse,
the Lord anoints us to proclaim
to the poor and broken
the Good News
that Jesus calls us to abundant life in Him.

Our Staff

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Reconciliation Times

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday After 8:30 am Mass
Saturday 8:30 to 9:30 am, and 4:30 to 5:00 pm
(Or By Appointment.)

Eucharistic Exposition & Adoration

Saturday 8:30-9:30 am
Most Mondays, Wednesdays, & Fridays 9:00-10:00 am

Additional Sacraments

Baptism & Anointing of the Sick—Contact the office for more information.
Marriage—Please contact the office at least 6 months in advance.

Office Hours

Monday-Friday 9:00 am-4:00 pm
Closed Wednesdays 10:00 am-12:00 pm



This Week's Mass Intentions

Thursday, December 24

4:30 pm †Ronald Schriver
7:00 pm †Robert Good
10:00 pm †Dorothy Moorman

Friday, December 25—The Nativity of the Lord

9:30 am †Jane & Clem Tafelski
† Barbara Tjarksen

Saturday, December 26

8:00 am †Carol Trzybinski
5:30 pm Deceased & Living members of the Christ Child Society

Sunday, December 27

9:00 am †Jane Tafelski
11:30 am †Dale Kroll
8:00 pm The Parish Family of
St. Thérèse, Little Flower

Monday, December 28

8:30 am Intentions of Olivia McDonald on her Birthday

Tuesday, December 29

8:30 am †Elizabeth "Betty" Terry

Wednesday, December 30

8:30 am †Greg Calhoun

Thursday, December 31

8:30 am †Fr. Derrick Sneyd on the 50th anniversary of his
ordination
6:30 pm †Sr. Agnes Anne Roberts, CSC

Friday, January 1— The Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

9:00 am Intentions of the Nayo Family
12:00 pm In thanksgiving for the Nayo Family

Saturday, January 2

8:00 am †Thomas Szumski
5:30 pm The Parish Family of
St. Thérèse, Little Flower

Sunday, January 3

9:00 am †Thomas Szumski
11:30 am Intentions of Jenny Daley
8:00 pm †Marjorie Bronsing & her sisters: Sr. Mary Ann McGriffin
& Sr. Francine McGriffin

From Father Terry

UNFOLD! unfold! take in His light,
Who makes thy cares more short than night.
The joys which with his day-star rise
He deals to all but drowsie eyes;
And (what the men of this world miss)
Some drops and dews of future bliss.

Hark! how the winds have changed their note,
And with warm whispers call thee out!
The frosts are past, the storms are gone,
And backward life at last comes on.
The lofty groves, in express joys,
Reply unto the turtle's voice:
And here, in dust and dirt,—oh, here,
The lilies of his love appear!

- Henry Vaughan (d. 1695)

Though more of a spring-time poem, these words seem to speak also to us of our winter feasts. So many emotions, the heights and the depths, are swirling in the hearts of the faithful nowadays throughout our country and our world. This great day of celebration of Christmas, in the midst of the most severe pandemic in living memory, offers us a unique perspective on what is important in life. While the secular view has its own perspective on what it deems "essential," with the eyes of faith we are able to see the deeper meaning of life in the story that begins in a manger – with centuries of prelude through the patriarchs and prophets. The center of history is declared in the Christmas Proclamation before the night Mass: *JESUS CHRIST, eternal God and Son of the eternal Father, desiring to consecrate the world by his most loving presence, was conceived by the Holy Spirit, and when nine months had passed since his conception, was born of the Virgin Mary in Bethlehem of Judah, and was made man: The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to the flesh.*

From our faith we see that the most essential of all things is this relationship that is open for us in the "home" of the church. In the Church, the house of God and the community of faith, we find the Lord in the manger. This Church is that stable where we come to find Him resting quietly and waiting for us, but we too, like the shepherds, are meant to share with others what we see. We are meant to help people

in their search for meaning, happiness, and life – in their search for Jesus.

Why did the Lord come among us? The Christmas Proclamation says Jesus wishes to consecrate the world by His loving presence. He wants to be present to us everywhere - even when we can't come to church, can't seek Him out to find Him in the stable of the church. It is in our hearts and in our homes that the Lord ultimately desires to reside as well. Every Christian believer is meant to be a microcosm of the universal Church and local parish. This is why Pope St. John Paul II called the home "the domestic church" – for children it is the first community of faith, and for all of us it is the first step in bringing God's kingdom into the world.

One thing has been clear this past year: the domestic church needs the wider community of faith. It is hard to keep the fire burning in our hearts when we are separated from each other. Live-streaming is like a tourniquet: it cannot heal; it can only slow the damage. So our community is trying to build up the parish family by building up the domestic church. Resources, workshops, and other avenues will be utilized throughout the year. Please refer to other parts of this bulletin for more information.

Finally, the Lord Jesus came to earth because of His love for you, since before you were born. God created you out of love. "The whole difference between construction and creation is exactly this: that a thing constructed can only be loved after it is constructed; but a thing created is loved before it exists, as the mother can love the unborn child." (G.K. Chesterton) Love does whatever it can to be united with the beloved. Thus the story of the universe is a love story between God and His Church, all humanity, and every individual. As a parish family we want to respond ever more deeply to that love that God shows us through loving Him and loving our neighbor created in His image.

Saint Thérèse, God's little flower, pray for us to build our life around the love of God, made visible in Jesus!

Fr. Terry Coonan

Thank you for celebrating this great feast of the Nativity of the Lord with us! We are so glad you are here. Our prayer is that you and your family have a blessed Christmas, filled with a renewed certainty of Jesus' infinite love for you.

- Fr. Terry Coonan & the Parish Staff of St. Thérèse, Little Flower Catholic Church



Text of the Propers for the Nativity of the Lord

The Propers of the Mass include the Scriptural texts that change with the liturgical calendar. The Proper texts which will be chanted by a cantor are the Introit (when the priest processes to the altar), Offertory (when the altar is prepared for the Liturgy of the Eucharist), and Communion.

Vigil Mass

Introit: "Today you will know that the Lord is coming to save us, and tomorrow you will see his glory." (cf. Exodus 16:6-7, Isaiah 35:4)

Offertory: "O Princes, lift up your gates; be lifted high, O eternal gates, and the King of Glory shall make his entry." (Psalm 24:7)

Communion: "The glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see the salvation which comes from our God." (cf. Isaiah 40:5)

Mass at Night/Midnight Mass

Introit: "The Lord said unto me: You are my Son, today I have begotten you." (Psalm 2:7)

Offertory: "Let the heavens rejoice and let the earth be glad before the face of the Lord, for he comes." (cf. Psalm 96:11-13)

Communion: "Amidst the splendors of the heavenly sanctuary, from the womb, before the morning star, I have begotten you." (Psalm 110:3)

Mass at Dawn

Introit: "Radiant light will shine upon us today, for the Lord is born unto us. He shall be called Wonderful God, Prince of Peace, Father of the world to come. His reign shall have no end." (cf. Isaiah 9:2, 6; Luke 1:33)

Offertory: "For it is God who has established the world, it shall never be moved; your throne is established from of old; you are from all eternity." (Psalm 93:1c-2)

Communion: "Exult, O daughter of Zion, sing praises, O daughter of Jerusalem; behold, your King is coming, the Holy One, the Savior of the world." (Zechariah 9:9)

Listen & Let Him Listen

Silence.

Today in the world, there is only silence. Sometimes, that's all we feel we can get from God. We ask questions, we pray fervently, or maybe, we give up in hearing Him. And what do we feel from God? Silence. No answers. No answered prayers. No shouts from the God who loves us for us to come back.

Many of us feel this silence right now. But today, there is silence no more. In the midst of deafening radio silence from God, and thousands of years of waiting, we hear the most beautiful, startling, and unexpected sound: the cry of a baby.

A baby. Because if He came as a warrior or king, we would be afraid to approach Him. But because He came in such vulnerability, no person can hesitate to come near. This baby will become someone great, and someone for all people. A Savior.

The name of Jesus comes from the Hebrew name: Yeshua, which means God saves. And when we dig into this word a bit more, we see that this Saving Name is a response to a cry, a centuries-long shout for help. We can all relate to that. When we need a Savior from anything, but especially our sin, our cry feels like it is centuries old.

So here He comes and He is here. In this Church. The Living Bread that satisfies our hunger and the Water of Life that cools our parched throats, exhausted from crying out.

The Savior is here, right now, in this Church. Cry out to Him. And listen for His cry, which has been crying out for you. He is longing to save you. Hear His cry, and let Him listen to yours.





Healing Prayer Corner: A Light in the Darkness

The pandemic, at a very minimum, has been a time of dusk. For over 300,000 families in the United States who have lost loved ones, and for the poor, it has been a time of darkness. The darkness from the pandemic is not over. But the darkness will not prevail. One's first thought might be the vaccines. Yes, over 2021, they should tame the pandemic, hopefully eradicate it. Yes, the vaccines are a light to the world, but that is not the light we celebrate today.

In today's Gospel, we hear proclaimed the stunning beginning of John's Gospel. God revealed himself and sent to us "the light of the human race; the light that "shines in the darkness." He is the "true light." He came in the form of a helpless baby, but just as a light of a candle can penetrate a darkened room, the light of this little baby penetrates a darkened world. And just as John the Baptist testified to the light, so we are called to testify to the light with all our words and actions, to bring hope and healing to a hurting world.



A Gift for You

Our gift to you this Christmas is a copy of the book *The Search* by Chris Stefanick. Each family is invited to pick up their copy in the back of the Church.

Access the video series that the book is based on, as well as tons of other FREE Catholic content, on Formed.org! Visit Formed.org or scan the code below, and use our parish code: 3HTQWC



The Solemnity of Mary Mother of God

Vigil Mass

Thursday, December 31st, 2020 at 6:30 pm*

Morning Mass

Friday, January 1st, 2021 at 9:00 am*

Afternoon Mass

Friday, January 1st, 2021 at 12:00 pm

*these Masses will also be livestreamed

2021: Year of the Family

"For every believer, and especially for Christian families, the humble dwelling place in Nazareth is an authentic school of the Gospel. Here we admire, put into practice, the divine plan to make the family an intimate community of life and love; here we learn that every Christian family is called to be a small 'domestic church' that must shine with the Gospel virtues."

-Pope John Paul II



God chose to enter into the world through a family and He calls **each one of us**- children, empty nesters, parents, divorcées, single people, those struggling with infertility- to be members of his family, the Church!

Such an important call deserves our energy and attention. We want to love, affirm and build up our parish family in an intentional way during this upcoming year, the Year of the Family.

Join us for a virtual info session at **7:00 pm on January 5th, 2021** to learn more about the Year of the Family, what it means for our parish, and how you can participate!

Whatever you do...



Whatever You Do Financial Assistance

Outreach: Your Light Shines Brightly

She lost her husband last year and lost his Social Security. With a teenage child and an infant child, her expenses were only growing. Both her mom and dad had recently died. Her younger brother, still in his 20s, had also recently died. And she was suffering from pancreatic cancer. Death and sickness were swallowing her up, but her children needed her. The prospect of having her water shut off was too much. **You paid that for her.**

Another woman came to us with a family ravaged by Covid. Her husband is hospitalized, and she and her three school-aged children have all contracted Covid. Her husband receives SSD, but she was laid off from her job, not just for the time of quarantine but probably permanently she was told. Her water bill had become an insurmountable challenge. **You paid that for her.**

The number of people coming to us who have been ravaged by the pandemic has increased markedly. Your generosity to the Whatever You Do Outreach Program is helping to keep folks from despair. May you continue to provide comfort to the suffering to a community that is experiencing deep and growing hurt. **Thank you.**

January Food Pantry Dates

The Little Flower Food Pantry will be open on **Tuesdays, January 5th, 12th, 19th & 26th** from **1:30 pm to 3:15 pm.**

Details -

- 1 household per car
- Please bring photo ID & current piece of mail
- One visit per household per month



Knights of Columbus Announcements

Family of the Month- We are extremely excited to join with our Parish Family in the 2021 year as “The Year of the Family” at Little Flower. We are teaming with our Little Flower Family to highlight and recognize those families that live out our Faith on a daily basis. Each of us know families in our community that live our Catholic faith. If you know a family that you wish to nominate for this award, we encourage you to nominate them. Simply nominate a family by completing the nomination form available from either Jerry Zent, Vince Feck, Rick Gallant or Ben Janczewski. We can email you the form by notifying Ben Janczewski at: wyootechben@gmail.com. You can return the completed form by email to: jerrymzent@gmail.com. If you would like, you can leave it at the parish office or mail it to Little Flower with Attention Knights of Columbus.

Membership - Do you have an interest in making a difference. The Knights of Columbus is open to all practicing Catholic adult men. If you have interest in joining our Council here at St Therese Martin – Little Flower please reach out to either Ben Janczewski, Grand Knight email wyootechben@gmail.com or Terry Freyer Chancellor email: terryfreyer@sbcglobal.net

**The members of the Knights of Columbus, St Therese Martin Council
17043 want to wish all at Blessed and Merry Christmas!**



T.H.E. Prayer & Outreach Ministry

Our ministry (Teach, Heal, Evangelize) was formed to bring the transformative, loving Spirit of God to our parish community and beyond. Through lived teaching experiences based on Sacred Scripture, in union with the teachings of the Catholic Church and through exercising the healing gifts of the Holy Spirit as expressed in the Old and New Testaments, and evangelizing to a suffering world in need of the powerful touch of our loving God, T.H.E., invites all to our semi-weekly meetings held in Rooms 2 and 3 of the parish center, from 7:00 to 8:30 pm.

Our Mission Statement: *“Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God – what is good and acceptable and perfect.”* Romans 12:2

Our next meetings will be held on January 13th & 27th, 2021. Masks and Social Distancing Required.

Text of the Propers for the Feast of the Holy Family, Sunday, December 27th

Text of the Propers for the Feast of the Holy Family

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Introit: "God is in his holy dwelling place; the God who causes us to dwell together, one at heart, in his house; he himself will give power and strength to his people." (Psalm 68: 6, 7, 36)

Offertory: "In you have I put my trust, O Lord; I said, 'You are my God, my destiny is in your hand.'" (Psalm 31:15-16)

Communion: "My son, why have you treated us so? Your father and I have been anxiously looking for you. 'How is it that you were seeking me? Did you not know that I must be about my Father's business?'" (Luke 2:48-49)



Thank you to our bulletin Sponsor of the Week
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Little Flower Parish

SPECIAL INTENTIONS AND REMEMBRANCES

John A. Toth
Ed McNamara Family
Gregory Calhoun & Family
Clifford Perras
Andert Family
The Poor Souls in Purgatory
Peck and Lohmann Families
Hanson & Bauer Families

Raven and Strobel Families
Czerwinski & Martinec Families
George Grochowski & Family
Bensman & Harriman Families
The Golba Families
Morell-Piza Family
John Feck-Theis Family
John Jr. & Carolyn Tarwacki

Ouellette & Parent Families
Jim North & Family
Jane & Clem Tafelski
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