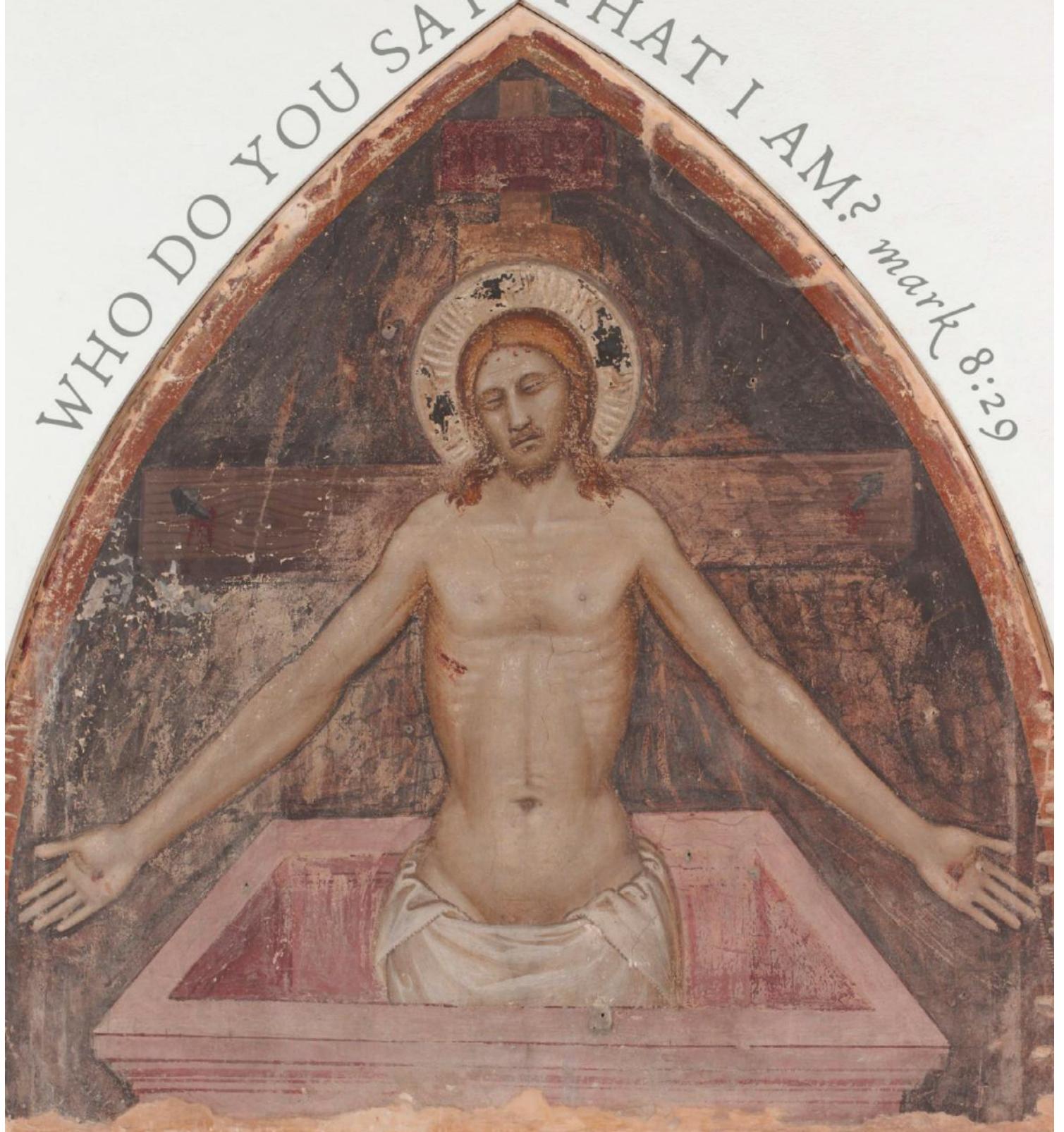


WHO DO YOU SAY THAT I AM? mark 8:29



24th Sunday in Ordinary Time



# ST. THÉRÈSE LITTLE FLOWER

## CATHOLIC CHURCH

www.LITTLEFLOWERCHURCH.ORG

54191 Ironwood Rd. South Bend IN 46635  
574-272-7070

**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



### Reconciliation Times

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

### Eucharistic Exposition & Adoration

Monday, Wednesday, & Friday ..... 9:00-9:30 am  
Saturday ..... 8:30-9:30 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



## 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

**Pastor** ..... Rev. Julius Okojie, Pastor  
217-8848 fatherjulius@littleflowerchurch.org

**Deacon** ..... Deacon Greg Gehred  
272-7070 deacongreg@littleflowerchurch.org

**Parish Business Manager** ..... Gail Waltman  
243-3443 gail@littleflowerchurch.org

**Director of Evangelization** ..... Abby Kyle  
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**Director of Catechesis** ..... Alexis Duffy  
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**Director of Sacred Music & Liturgy** ..... Daniel Tucker  
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**Food Pantry Director** ..... Janet Lentz  
243-3438 janet@littleflowerchurch.org

**Communications Coordinator** ..... Megan Gettinger  
272-7070 megan@littleflowerchurch.org

**Office Assistants** ..... Jenny Peterson & Brenda McDonald  
272-7070 jenny@littleflowerchurch.org  
brenda@littleflowerchurch.org

**Maintenance** ..... Darlene Pruitt-Taylor and Roy Lawson  
darlene@littleflowerchurch.org

## This Week's Mass Intentions

### Saturday, September 11

5:30 pm    †Betty & Bill Falvey

### Sunday, September 12

9:00 am    †Matthew Vu Phong Pham  
11:30 am    †Fr. Edward Rutz  
8:00 pm    The Parish Family of St. Thérèse, Little Flower

### Monday, September 13

8:30 am    Mary Brown

### Tuesday, September 14

8:30 am    †Mary Louise Kuehn

### Wednesday, September 15

8:30 am    †Greg Calhoun

### Thursday, September 16

8:30 am    For Biblical Proportion miracles for Katie Schwab  
through the joint intercession of our Blessed  
Mother & Bl. Basil Moreau

### Friday, September 17

8:30 am    †Roberto Limon

### Saturday, September 18

8:00 am    †Maria Kustner  
5:30 pm    †Carol Trzybinski

### Sunday, September 19

9:00 am    †Louis Pruitt, Jr.  
11:30 am    †Evelyn Singleton  
8:00 pm    The Parish Family of St. Thérèse, Little Flower

## A Letter from our Pastor

*May I never boast except in the cross of our Lord through which the world has been crucified to me and I to the world (Gal. 6:14)*

The above words come from our Gospel acclamation for this weekend. My intention in choosing these words for our reflection is to call attention to suffering in the life of Christ as fundamental to our own embrace of our sufferings. Many people who reject God or in their rejection of organized religion refuse to affiliate with Christianity ask why there is so much suffering in the world if there is a good God. It would seem that by their questioning they hold God responsible for suffering in the world, while excusing human beings of any responsibility for the evils in the world.

It is important to make clear that suffering is not a creation of God. God did not create suffering; it came into the world due to human sin... "in the day that you eat of the fruit of the tree, you shall die" (Genesis 2:17). But thanks be to God, Christ came into the world to remedy that and to bring us back to the pristine dignity intended for us by God. He does this by his Incarnation in the womb of the Virgin Mary, and by his passion, death and resurrection – all in obedience to the Father's will. This Jesus, the one of whom Isaiah and other prophets spoke, is the suffering Servant of the Lord, the one who was led like a lamb to the slaughterhouse, yet he did not open his mouth to defend himself but silently accepted the ignominy which was deservedly ours (cf. Isaiah 53:7). This becomes an example for how we are to handle our own sufferings.

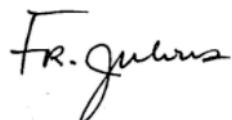
I have heard people say they find certain descriptors of God or of Jesus easier to relate to than others. It is easier to relate with a smiling Jesus than with a frowning one; with a calm and loving Jesus than with a chastising and demanding one... It is often said that Jesus means many different things to different people. And because human experiences differ, we all come to different understandings of who Jesus is. For the man in our gospel for last weekend, Jesus was probably a healer. Some wanted to crown him king so he would provide bread for them (John 6:15). Some of us prefer to call Jesus our buddy, friend, pal, a great hero, a great teacher, or like many of his day thought he was, one of the great heroes from the past.

Whatever our descriptions of Jesus, they still fall short of who Jesus really is. Human beings are so in awe of the transcendent and look for ways of bridging the gap between us and what stands outside of us. We sometimes use connectors that risk stripping the transcendent of its transcendence, and thus make it accessible to us. God is totally and wholly Other. In his essence, God is totally removed from us, and unlike us in every way. However, God willed to be immanent to us. And he does so in the Incarnation. God became man, so that we can relate to him, and him to us, in ways that do not threaten or scare us. Jesus, the Second person of the Blessed Trinity, became like us

in all things. He became the visible expression of the invisible God. As God, he was incapable of suffering; but as man, he identifies with the human condition, and became subject to weakness, and even death. Peter did not understand this. How could Jesus, who just confirmed his declaration of him as the long expected Messiah, the Son of God, speak about his own death? It was impossible for him to imagine the Messiah as capable of suffering, let alone dying. Hence, he felt the need to condemn that thought immediately. But Jesus knew he needed to teach his disciples that suffering came with the title, "Messiah." Not only will he suffer, he will be rejected and killed. But the good news is, he will rise again. As such, any attempt at preventing his passion would be standing in the way to his accomplishing his Father's will. Thus, he rebuked Peter for thinking as men do, not as God does.

Peter, like some Jews, saw in Jesus the fundamental attributes of the messianic "Son of David" promised by God to Israel. However, his expectation was for a political Messiah, one who conquers by military might, and was incapable of suffering or even dying. This is the way humans think, not as God does. Thankfully, Jesus did not give credence to this expectation. He clears the air that the passion of the Son of Man was essential to his redemptive mission, and does not undermine his transcendence as the Son of God. He said, "The Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many" (John 3:13; Matt. 20:28). The name Jesus means "God saves." This name, given by the angel Gabriel at the annunciation, expresses both his identity and his mission. He is God who saves, and he will save his people from sin and its consequence – death. He does this through his Incarnation, passion, death and resurrection. This integration of identity and mission is echoed in Peter's response, and it calls forth the integration of our own identity as children of God, and our mission to be God's presence in our world. We are called to let our actions reflect the dignity we have as sons and daughters of God. Our faith must shine forth in good works, and not just mere words, for having been crucified to the world, our boast should be in the cross of Christ, the instrument of our salvation, and not run away from whatever crosses the Lord sends us.

May Jesus bless you, and may Our Lady protect you!  
With blessings from my heart,



## Text of the Propers—24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

*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.*

**Introit:** “Grant peace to those who are waiting for you, O Lord, so that your prophets may be proved trustworthy; hear the prayers of your servant and of your people Israel.” (Sirach 36:18)

**Offertory:** “Moses consecrated an altar to the Lord, and presented thereupon burnt offerings and sacrificial victims; he made an evening sacrifice as a fragrant offering to the Lord, in the presence of the sons of Israel.” (Exodus 24:4-5)

**Communion:** “If a man wishes to come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me.” (Matthew 16:24)

## Readings for the Week of September 12, 2021

Sunday	<b>Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> Is 50:4c-9a; Ps 116:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9; Jas 2:14-18; Mk 8:27-35
Monday	<b>Memorial of Saint John Chrysostom, Bishop and Doctor of the Church</b> 1 Tm 2:1-8; Ps 28:2, 7, 8-9; Lk 7:1-10
Tuesday	<b>Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross</b> Nm 21:4b-9; Ps 78:1bc-2, 34-35, 36-37, 38; Phil 2:6-11; Jn 3:13-17
Wednesday	<b>Memorial of Our Lady of Sorrows</b> 1 Tm 3:14-16; Ps 111:1-2, 3-4, 5-6; Jn 19:25-27 or Lk 2:33-35
Thursday	<b>Memorial of Saints Cornelius, Pope and Cyprian, Bishop, Martyrs</b> 1 Tm 4:12-16; Ps 111:7-8, 9, 10; Lk 7:36-50
Friday	<b>Saint Robert Bellarmine, Bishop and Doctor of the Church</b> 1 Tm 6:2c-12; Ps 49:6-7, 8-10, 17-18, 19-20;-Lk 8:1-3 1 Tm 6:13-16; Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5; Lk 8:4-15
Saturday	<b>Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> Wis 2:12, 17-20; Ps 54:3-4, 5, 6-8; Jas 3:16-4:3; Mk 9:30-37
Sunday	

Following the closing prayer at each Mass we pray the St. Michael Prayer together. If you would like to commit the St. Michael Prayer to memory, feel free to cut out this image and hang it where you and your family can pray it frequently.



**St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle.  
Be our protection against the wickedness  
and snares of the devil.  
May God rebuke him, we humbly pray,  
and do Thou, O Prince of the Heavenly Host,  
by the power of God cast into Hell Satan  
and all the evil spirits who prowl about the world  
seeking the ruin of souls.**

**Amen.**

We are a community that builds and sends disciples...

## Update on RCIA

Please keep our RCIA candidates and catechumens in your prayers! Each month we gather for a small group discussion (right now we're reading a book on St. Thérèse called "I Believe in Love"). Each person meets with their sponsor weekly to pray together and discuss various Catholic topics particular to his or her own journey. They are praying together, discussing and reading together, eating together, meeting each other's families, and simply "doing life together".

Why this particular approach to RCIA? Because we believe real discipleship and accompaniment is the best way to form lifelong Catholics!

**Did you know?** 65% of people who come into the Church at Easter Vigil are not attending Mass one year after becoming Catholic. We want to reverse that statistic! What is the game changer for lifelong discipleship? Being in relationship with others who are also pursuing Christ and are calling us "further up and further in"!

**How can you journey with our RCIA candidates?** Please pray for them! You will find baskets at each door with slips of papers. Each slip has the name of someone who is journeying to become Catholic! Pray a quick Hail Mary and pick a name! This is the person we hope you will pray for during the year.

Are you interested in becoming Catholic or receiving all of your sacraments? Have questions? Think Catholicism is baloney and want to talk to someone about it? Please contact me!



**Abby Kyle**

Director of Evangelization

[abby@littleflowerchurch.org](mailto:abby@littleflowerchurch.org)

## JOIN US FOR OUR FIRST CHOIR REHEARSAL!

This Wednesday, September 15, 2021  
6:00-7:15 PM in the Church

No commitment is required to attend  
All are welcome!

## Music, dance, & prayer

All are invited to a 30 minute presentation of music and dance prayers by Wings of Dawn. This will be held in the backyard of St. Therese Little Flower Catholic Church on Sunday, September 12, after the 11:30 am Mass.



## Healing Prayer Corner: What Do We Do With Suffering?

Paul asked to be relieved of it (2 Corinthians 12:9-10), but the Lord told him, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.' I will rather boast most gladly of my weaknesses, in order that the power of Christ may dwell with me. Therefore, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and constraints, for the sake of Christ; for when I am weak, then I am strong."

In a profound reflection by Loretta Ross, Letters from the Holy Ground, we read: "we need not so much a new political direction as a willingness to wear our wounds without shame and allow them to serve God and creation as apertures of grace.... In the face of evil, instead of blaming and attacking and beating, Christians allow themselves to be pierced through by evil, following the shepherd all the way to the cross and becoming channels for the urgent love of God on behalf of all people."

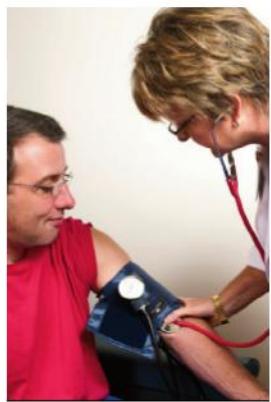
It may sound discomforting to our cultural ears, but it's profoundly Christian.

We are a community that serves the poor...

## Blood Pressure Ministry

If anyone is interested in assisting with the Blood Pressure Ministry after Masses one weekend a month please contact Lucy Ostrowski at 574-277-1586.

Thank you!



## Food Pantry Request

Thank you for your continued generosity to the Food Pantry! To best contribute to the mission of the Pantry please do not donate any food that is:

- past the expiration date
- damaged (dented cans)
- that you wouldn't feed to your own family

Thank you!

## Support of St. Joseph Special Olympics

The Knights of Columbus thank members of St. Therese Little Flower for the support of our recent Tootsie Roll Drive. Some of the donations collected enabled us to assist our local St Joseph Special Olympics program in their trek to Greenwood to compete in the annual Special Olympics Softball Tournament. The support was greatly appreciated and the leadership team expressed their thanks and appreciation!

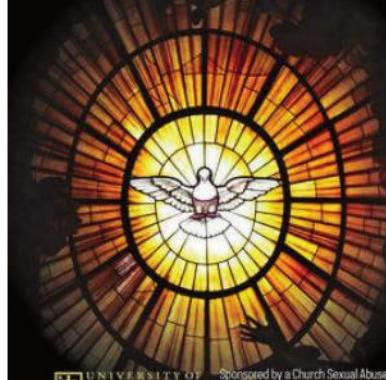
## Right to Life Michiana: Day of Remembrance for Aborted Children

Join us at Southlawn Cemetery on the National Day of Remembrance for Aborted Children on September 18th, to honor the memory of the 2,411 babies aborted and stowed in George Klopfer's garage and car trunk. We will have ministry leaders from the community lead us in prayer as well as time for worship with hymns. Our Church Outreach Coordinator, Mike Jacob, will lead the service.

For any questions, please contact Megan, our Program Manager, at [programs@prolifemichiana.org](mailto:programs@prolifemichiana.org) or call our office for information. No registration required. Please share with your churches, small groups, ministries, family, and friends.



## *Abandonment to Divine Providence:* How Truth and Reconciliation Can Become a Path to Healing Sex Abuse in the Catholic Church



Helen Alvaré  
Professor of Law at Antonin Scalia Law  
School, George Mason University



Thursday, September 23, 2021  
7:30 pm | McKenna Hall Conference Center  
Rooms 215/216  
Free and open to the public. Registration is not required.



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Visit [formed.org](https://formed.org) and search for our Parish to access tons of free content!

We are a community that extends the Kingdom of God.

## September Kingdom Builders Gathering: Living in the Light

God created us in His image and likeness. He is a good Father who desires His children to look like Him! He desires us to be close to His light, so we may be illuminated! Whether you feel bright and shiny or like a broken, burnt-out light bulb, come and allow God's light to fill and heal you.

All women are invited to join us for a Scripture-based teaching, Eucharistic Adoration, praise & worship, and an opportunity for Confession.

This Thursday, September 16th  
7:00–8:30 pm in the Church



## Knights of Columbus Soccer Challenge

We are excited to share with our Little Flower Family that the Knights of Columbus Council 17043 Soccer Challenge Competition will take place on **Saturday September 25th, 2021** beginning at 10:00 AM. The location of the competition will be at Boehm Park in Mishawaka, Indiana. Boehm Park is located on the corner of Edison and Rose St. This competition is open to youth ages 9-14. We are hoping that our Parish family will assist in directing interested youth to contact either Scott Smithburn (Scott is Chair of this program) via email [irishman1991@gmail.com](mailto:irishman1991@gmail.com) or Ben Janczewski (Grand Knight) via email [wyotechben@gmail.com](mailto:wyotechben@gmail.com). We will provide you with the application and all pertinent information to compete. Please inform any young Soccer enthusiast of this fun competition. Our winner will go on and compete at District, Regional, State and ultimately National Competitions so long as they continue to win.



Thank you to our bulletin Sponsor of the Week:  
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Redeemer Radio Fall Sharathon

St. Therese Little Flower Parish is on the Fall Sharathon Fri, Sept 17 from 9-10 am – pray, pledge and listen to 95.7FM! You can also watch LIVE or on demand on Facebook and YouTube! Help Redeemer Radio in their mission to share Christ. Go to [Redeemerradio.com/Sharathon](http://Redeemerradio.com/Sharathon) or scan the QR code to donate, see the full schedule & find links. You can also call or text “GIVE” to 260.436.9598 Thank you!



Registration Opens **August 9th** at 9:00am



For Registration and Speaker Information Please Visit:  
**[BuildingThroughHim.Com](http://BuildingThroughHim.Com)**



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**Little Flower Parish**

**SPECIAL INTENTIONS AND REMEMBRANCES**

Gregory Calhoun & Family  
Jane & Clem Tafelski  
Barbara & Dick Tjarksen  
Hanson & Bauer Families

Jim North & Family  
John Jr. & Carolyn Tarwacki  
Peck & Lohmann Families  
Ouellette & Parent Families

The Ronney Family  
John Feck-Theis Family

Morell-Piza Family

Peterson Family

Dillman Family

Christine Stayback

For the Poor Souls in Purgatory

Gregory Gough