

October 3rd, 2021

RESPECT LIFE SUNDAY



To all the members of the Church, the people of life and for life, I make this most urgent appeal, that together we may offer this world of ours new signs of hope, and work to ensure that justice and solidarity will increase and that a new culture of human life will be affirmed, for the building of an authentic civilization of truth and love.

JOHN PAUL II, EVANGELIUM VITAE

Greetings of peace and goodwill to you and your households!

I want to first express my gratitude to all our parishioners for your participation in the events marking our celebration of the feast day of our heavenly big sister, St. Thérèse, the Little Flower of Jesus. Thank you also to members of our Accompaniment team led by Kerry Wallace, our parish staff, and the Knights of Columbus of our council for their work in making the feast a memorable one. May St. Thérèse continue to intercede for us all, and for our parish, and bring us roses of answered prayers from God's garden in heaven. Amen.

October is Respect Life Month; and in our country, it is Pregnancy and Infant Loss Awareness Month. We believe that every human life is invaluable, unrepeatable, cannot be duplicated, and must be protected. We will do our part to promote the culture of life and protect this sacred and divinely given right, and at the same time work to stomp out the culture of death. This endeavor will profit from recourse to the blessed mother of God, who is also our mother. I therefore encourage that we renew our commitment to the daily recitation of the rosary and ask the intercession of the most holy of creatures, the Blessed Virgin Mary, as we strive to treasure the gift of life that God has gratuitously bestowed upon us, and also help defend the most vulnerable among us, the unborn, elderly and infirm, from all policies and attempts that threaten their right to life. We also remember in our prayers all pregnant women, and families who have lost children through abortion or miscarriages.

October is also Domestic Violence Awareness Month. The silent scourge of domestic violence and abuse is one we must all agree to denounce and expose. The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops has written a pastoral response to Domestic Violence entitled "When I Call for Help," which can be found here: tinyurl.com/5kbj5udx, and provides important information both for those who find themselves in violent domestic situations and those looking to provide support for them.

It is not good that man should be alone... from the very beginning the Creator willed that human beings live in community and in life-giving relationships with others and with creation. We see this clearly in the second creation account recorded in the book of Genesis chapter 2. The lifelong and exclusive union between a man and a woman, which we call marriage, is grounded on this understanding that humans are created out of love and for love.

I would like to invite you to reflect on this quote from our patron Saint. It speaks to the necessity of communities of

love, like our parish, the church, marriage, friendship, whatever communities that encourage human thriving and flourishing. The diversity evident among us should be a blessing rather than a curse because, as St. Paul says, though many, we are one body in Christ (Romans 12:5).

Charity gave me the key to my vocation. I understood that the Church being a body composed of different members, the most essential, the most noble of all the organs would not be wanting to her; I understood that the Church has a heart and that this heart is burning with love; that it is love alone which makes the members work, that if love were to die away apostles would no longer preach the Gospel, martyrs would refuse to shed their blood. I understood that love comprises all vocations, that love is everything, that it embraces all times and all places because it is eternal! (St. Thérèse, Story of a Soul)

Another lesson we can deduce from the first reading is that God's creative act points to the complementarity of the sexes. The man was incomplete until the woman was created; in the same way, the woman was incomplete without her man. In creating a woman from the bone taken from the man's rib, God shows the closeness of this new creature to the heart of man, and also indicates her status as his equal. This natural union was subsequently elevated by Christ to the status of a sacrament, and thus becomes the privileged medium for communicating God's graces to the spouses – for their own good, and for the procreation and education of children. Like every sacrament, marriage is an efficacious sign that communicates grace to its recipients. It is a sign of the union between Christ and his bride, the church. Although an earthly reality, marriage is oriented toward the life hereafter. Spouses have the vocation of sanctifying each other, and helping each other get to heaven. And they have the grace of the sacrament to help them on this journey.

I will conclude my reflection by praying, in the words of the psalmist, for all married couples, and for all contemplating marriage, that they fear the Lord and walk in his ways. May they eat the fruits of their labors. For husbands, may their wives be like fruitful vines in the recesses of their homes. May their children be like olive plants around their tables, and may they see their children's children. Shalom!

May Jesus bless you, and may Our Lady protect you!

With blessings from my heart,



Text of the Propers— 27th 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: “All things are submitted to your will, O Lord, and no one can resist your decisions; you have made all things: heaven and earth, and all that is contained under the vault of the sky; you are the master of the universe.” (Esther 13:9-11 [C:2-4])

Offertory: “There was a man in the land of Hus whose name was Job, a blameless, upright, and God-fearing man; Satan asked to be allowed to tempt him, and the Lord gave him power over his possessions and his body; and so, he destroyed his possessions and his children, and he ravaged his flesh with horrible sores.” (Job 1, 2:7)

Communion: “My soul aspires after your salvation; I hope in your word; when will you judge those who persecute me? The wicked are persecuting me; come to my assistance, O Lord, my God.” (Psalm 119:81, 84, 86)

Following the closing prayer at each Mass we pray the St. Michael Prayer together:

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.

Readings for the Week of October 3, 2021

Sunday	Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time Gn 2:18-24; Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5, 6; Heb 2:9-11; Mk 10:2-16 or 10:2-12
Monday	Memorial of Saint Francis of Assisi Jon 1:1–2:2, 11; Jon 2:3, 4, 5, 8; Lk 10:25-37
Tuesday	Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos, Priest Jon 3:1-10; Ps 130:1b-2, 3-4ab, 7-8; Lk 10:38-42
Wednesday	Saint Bruno, Priest; Blessed Marie Rose Durocher, Virgin Jon 4:1-11; Ps 86:3-4, 5-6, 9-10; Lk 11:1-4
Thursday	Memorial of Our Lady of the Rosary Mal 3:13-20b; Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6; Lk 11:5-13
Friday	Jl 1:13-15; 2:1-2; Ps 9:2-3, 6 and 16, 8-9; Lk 11:15-26
Saturday	Saint Denis, Bishop, and Companions, Martyrs; Saint John Leonardi, Priest Jl 4:12-21; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12; Lk 11:27-28
Sunday	Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time Wis 7:7-11; Ps 90:12-13, 14-15, 16-17; Heb 4:12-13; Mk 10:17-30 or 10:17-27

Children are a continual reminder that the missionary fruitfulness of the Church has its life-giving basis not in human means and merits, but in the absolute gratuitous gift of God. The life itself of innocence and grace of many children, and even the suffering and oppression unjustly inflicted upon them are in virtue of the Cross of Christ a source of spiritual enrichment for them and for the entire Church. Everyone ought to be more conscious and grateful for this fact. Furthermore, it must be acknowledged that valuable possibilities exist even in the life's stages of infancy and childhood, both for the building up of the Church and for making society more humane. How often the Council referred to the beneficial and constructive affects for the family, “the domestic Church,” through the presence of sons and daughters: “Children as living members of the family, contribute in their own way to the sanctification of their parents.” The Council’s words must also be repeated about children in relation to the local and universal Church.

- John Paul II, *Christifideles Laici*, paragraph 47

As we celebrate Mass together this weekend, may this quote be a reminder both for parents of small children needing the reassurance that **you and your child(ren) are welcome here** no matter how squirmy, and for parishioners who are seated near or behind small children, needing a reminder that a kind look, an encouraging word, or even just charitable patience toward our smallest parishioners and their parents, goes a long way in building up our parish family and the universal Church.

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

Core Value Focus:

Authentic Accompaniment

As we focus on Authentic Accompaniment as one of our Parish Priorities please prayerfully consider getting involved in one of the following ways:

Social Committee: plan and host opportunities for our parish family to connect and celebrate together!

Phone Bank: reach out to fellow parishioners 2x/year on your schedule to connect and let them know they are loved!

New Parishioner Match Program: get matched with new parishioners and families, help them feel welcome and at home here at St. Thérèse, Little Flower Catholic Church!

Please text, email, or call regarding
your choice to serve:

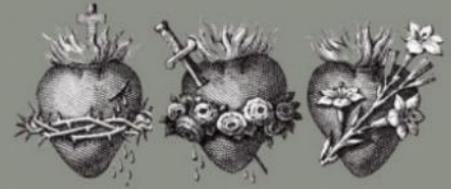
Kerry Wallace, 574.532.6282, wallace1236@att.net



Launching in October: Households

Households are medium-sized intentional communities of parishioners (and their families) gathered under a particular charism and united under a community covenant. Households gather monthly in homes to eat, pray, and 'do life together'!

Look for more information to come in the upcoming weeks, visit littleflowerchurch.org/households, or contact Abby (abby@littleflowerchurch.org) to learn more!



ST. THÉRÈSE LITTLE FLOWER LIFETEEN

SUNDAYS

6:30-8PM

UPPER ROOM

Save the Dates:

Oct. 23/24 – Household Launch Weekend

Oct. 29 – Memorial Mass for those who
have lost a child

Nov. 4 – “The One” Retreat

Nov. 19 – Healing Service

All are invited to pray the
Rosary together on Sundays at
8:30 am prior to the 9:00 am
Mass in the Church.

Our Lady of the Rosary,
pray for us!



Christ Child Society Boot Collection: Next 2 Weekends

The Christ Child Society annually provides new warm winter coats, shoes and clothing for thousands of children in our community who lack resources. One thing parents often request is boots to help make shoes last and keep tiny feet warm.

Please donate your gently worn boots or buy an extra pair when you purchase boots for your own children. A collection box will be available in the church vestibule during the weekends of October 9-10 and 16-17 to collect the boots. All sizes are needed!

National Domestic Violence Awareness Month

October is National Domestic Violence Awareness Month. To learn more about the Catholic response, visit the U.S. Bishop's website for their Pastoral Letter, "When I Call for Help."

If you, a family member or friend needs help now, contact the National Domestic Violence Hotline, 800-799-7233 (24 hours); 800-787-3224(TTY), www.thehotline.org. If you are in immediate danger, call 911.

Donations to help Afghan refugees

New clothing, powdered baby formula and other items are needed for thousands of Afghan evacuees temporarily housed at Camp Atterbury.

Only new items in their original packaging will be accepted from 8 am to 4 pm Monday through Friday at **the South Bend National Guard armory, located at 1901 Kemble Avenue**. For a detailed list of needed items visit: <https://tinyurl.com/27xr2bbx>

Whatever You Do Outreach: Tales of Three Women

A woman came to us who has suffered much recently. She had gotten Covid and was coughing so much that it tore arteries in her heart, caused clot clots, and a heart attack recently. She has a 14-year-old son who, she declared, was everything she had to live for. Still, she had to pay her rent and needed help. We provided that. Another woman was fired at a job in which she claimed the manager didn't like women. She is the mother of two preschool children, but can't find safe and affordable childcare that would enable her to work again. The child tax credit program provides desperately needed assistance, but by itself can't cover her expenses. She managed to pay part of a utility bill, but could go no further. We provided that. Another woman, a victim of domestic violence, has two children, one with a disability. She works as an auto mechanic, but can't work enough hours and make enough to take care of her children and meet her expenses. We covered a utility bill for her.

Thank you for providing a life-line for these three women.

Faith Climate Declaration & Faith Climate Summit

Join Hoosier Interfaith Power and Light in promoting a just transition in Indiana by signing their Faith Climate Declaration today. Also, join H-IPL this fall for a Faith Climate Summit taking place on October 10th in Noblesville, Indiana. The day will feature Indiana's first Black-owned vegan food truck, live music, a keynote featuring Rahul Durai of the youth movement Confront the Climate Crisis, a panel discussion on a just transition, hands-on activities, and more! More information at: <https://bit.ly/FaithClimateSummit>



We are a community that extends the Kingdom of God.



Healing Prayer Corner: Remembering

Looking back at the Healing Prayer Column, celebrating ten years, we thought we'd share some gems provided to us, this week from Francis MacNutt, pioneer in the healing ministry and author of the best-selling book, "Healing."

September 25, 2011 (first column): "Healing is the most convincing demonstration to ordinary people that God is with us – that he is not 'out there' beyond the reach of human compassion."

November 27, 2011: "Jesus is freeing us from sin, from ignorance, from weakness of purpose, from disoriented emotions, and from physical sickness – from all the sickness, therefore, that destroys or lessens our humanity – in order to give us new life, a new relationship of love and union with his Father through the power of the Holy Spirit."

December 25, 2011: "If we truly believe that God is love, then it should be easy to believe that healing is an ordinary, not an extraordinary sign of his compassion."

February 5, 2012: "Christianity is more than doctrine; it is power. It is power to transform our lives, to destroy the evil that prevents us from loving God and our neighbor."

Photography talent needed!

Do you have an eye for taking beautiful photos? Whether you are skilled with a professional grade camera or your iPhone camera we would be grateful if you would share your gifts with our parish! We are building up our parish photo library for use in communications and simply to record the life of the parish. If you are interested in helping, simply take photos at parish events and share them with Megan via email megan@littleflowerchurch.org. You can also email with any questions. Thank you!

Thank You from Redeemer Radio

Thank you to the St. Therese Little Flower parish community for participating in the Fall Sharathon! Your parish was able to exceed your goal and raise \$3,555 and overall, we raised over \$285,000 for the mission of sharing the hope and truth of Jesus Christ through audio content. We couldn't do it without you! Thank you!

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



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		Dillman Family	
		Christine Stayback	
		For the Poor Souls in Purgatory	