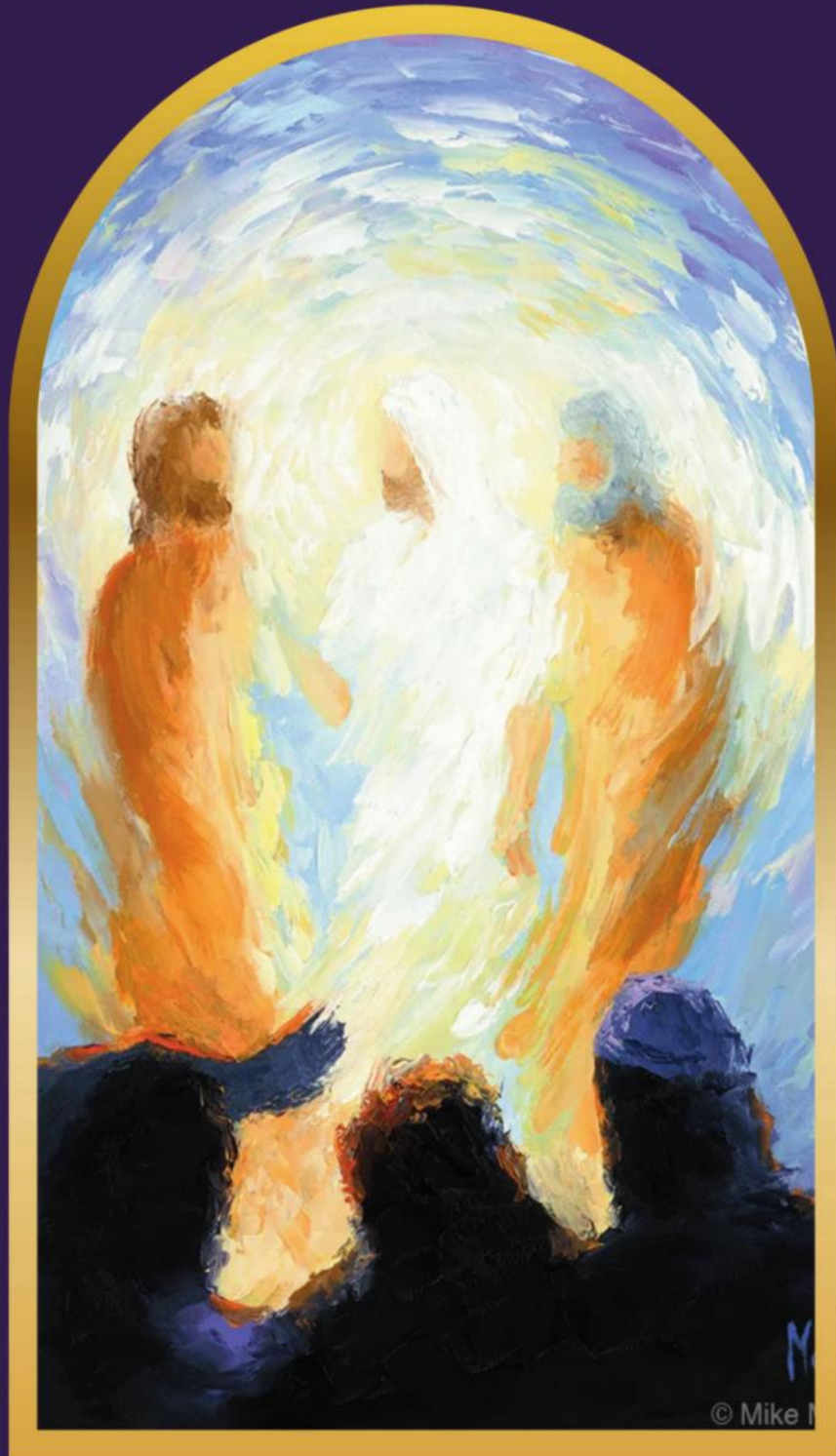


SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT
MARCH 16, 2025



ST. THÉRÈSE
LITTLE FLOWER
CATHOLIC CHURCH

Our Mission:

St. Thérèse, Little Flower Parish exists to **rescue** people from the poverty of an identity outside of **Jesus**.

Weekend Mass Schedule

Saturday Vigil

4:30pm

Sunday

9:00am, 11:30am, 8:00pm

Daily Mass Schedule

Morning Mass, followed by Adoration w/ Confessions

Monday - Friday

8:30am

Saturday

8:00am

Eucharistic Adoration

Weekdays

5:00 am - 10:00 am

Saturday

8:30am - 9:30am

Reconciliation Times

Monday, Wednesday, Friday

9:00am - 9:30am

Saturday

8:30am - 9:30am

Office Address

54191 N. Ironwood Rd,
South Bend, IN 46635

Parish Office Hours

Mon - Tues 9:00am - 4:00pm

Wed - Fri by Appointment

Main Phone

574-272-7070

Baptism, Anointing, Marriage

Contact the office for more information.



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<https://littleflowerchurch.org/connect>

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Mass Intentions and Scripture Readings

Saturday, March 15

Dt 26:16-19; Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8; Mt 5:43-48

8:00am: Codty Pierce

4:30pm: Codty Pierce

Sunday, March 16 | Second Sunday of Lent

Gen 15:5-12, 17-18; Ps 27:1, 7-8, 8-9, 13-14; Phil 3:17-4:1; Lk 9:28b-36

9:00am: Little Flower Parish Family

11:30am: For the family of Barbara Verduin

8:00pm: Codty Pierce

Monday, March 17 | Feast of St. Patrick

Dn 9:4b-10; Ps 79:8, 9, 11, and 13; Lk 6:36-38

8:30am: Codty Pierce

Tuesday, March 18

Is 55:10-11; Ps 34:4-5, 6-7, 16-17, 18-19; Mt 6:7-15

8:30am: Joseph Nikoli †

Wednesday, March 19 | Solemnity of Saint Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary

2 Sam 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16; Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29; Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22; Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a

8:30am: Codty Pierce

Thursday, March 20

Jer 17:5-10; Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6; Lk 16:19-31

8:30am: Codty Pierce

Friday, March 21

Gen 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a; Ps 105:16-17, 18-19, 20-21; Mt 21:33-43, 45-46

8:30am: Codty Pierce

Saturday, March 22

Mi 7:14-15, 18-20; Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-12; Lk 15:1-3, 11-32

8:00am: Codty Pierce

4:30pm: Little Flower Parish Family

FROM THE DESK OF THE PASTOR

OUR CITIZENSHIP IS IN HEAVEN

In this Sunday's First Reading from Genesis, we hear about God's relationship with Abram, whom God renames "Abraham" a few chapters later. In the snapshot of their relationship presented by this passage, we see the kernels of a life of prayer. If you were to choose a single word out of the First Reading to summarize this snapshot, it would be the word "covenant". A covenant is based in eternity, [it] is meant to be limitless, and involves an exchange of persons. When one buys a house, one signs a contract. When one marries one's spouse, one enters into a covenant. When one is baptized, one enters into a covenant with God, even as an infant. Here, God enters a covenant with Abram, and through him, also with his descendants. Through this covenant, God and Abram make promises about how they would act towards each other. They enter into a relationship with spiritual and moral dimensions.

Entering into a covenant with God, or with another person in a sacrament like Marriage, is the giving of one's whole self: one's whole life. Each saint's life demonstrates just how much effort this takes. That's why prayer is so needed, and in this we have an example of God's generosity. Not only does He enter into a covenant with us in our Baptism, so that we might possibly enjoy His life eternally in Heaven. God gives us the strength through prayer and the sacraments to live up to our end of the deal.

What can we say about prayer, then, as it helps us grow stronger in our covenant relationship with God? You might describe prayer as "communication" with God. Real communication, whether in marriage or in one's relationship with God, involves both listening and speaking. A marriage where only one spouse speaks—where there's no dialogue, but only monologues—will not grow to its intended fullness. This covenant relationship between God and Abram also shows us that prayer, while often a dialogue, is meant to lead into something profound. The question isn't whether you are meant for this. The difficulty is that to be disposed to deeper levels of prayer, we have to root out of our souls the selfishness that lies underneath the surface of our lives. So the Christian life is like the chicken and the egg: the relationship between our moral life and spiritual life is complex. Each builds upon the other.

To take one simple step forward this Lent, in either our moral life or our spiritual life, we should keep in mind the simple phrase of Saint Paul in today's Second Reading: "our citizenship is in Heaven." God has created you for Heaven, not for earth. Like Jesus at the Transfiguration, we cannot remain here and rest. We have an exodus to make, a pilgrimage to set out upon, and Christ is our guide if we would only hear and heed Him.

Excerpts from Hoisington, Thomas. March 16, 2025 – Second Sunday of Lent [C]. Catholic Diocese of Wichita.

Let us pray:

- that in this season of Lent we may grow closer to Christ through our practice of fasting, prayer, and almsgiving.
- that we may grow closer to the heart of the Father by letting go of that which drowns out his voice.
- for the grace of fortitude during this season of penance so that we may have greater faith in the Good Will of the Father.

ways to meet God this week

Eucharistic Adoration

Weekdays | Adoration Chapel
5:00am -10:00am; 7:00pm-10:10pm

Small Group Bible Study

Sunday | 10:10am - 11:25am
Parish Center, Room 1

Men's Prayer Group

Mondays | 6:30pm -8:00pm
Parish Center, Rooms 2/3

Food Pantry

Tues & Thurs | 1:30pm -3:15pm
Lower Parking Lot
**Bring a photo ID and a piece of mail dated in last 30 days.*

Fit for Life

Tues & Thurs | 8:00am – 10:00am
Wellness Center

Young Mom's Book Study

Tuesdays | 7:30pm - 9:00pm
**Email Abby@littleflowerchurch.org for location*

Ablaze Young Adult Bible Study

Wednesdays | 7:00pm -8:30pm
Parish Center, Room 1

Mass for Healing

Thursday, March 20 | 6:00pm -8:00pm
Church
6:00pm - Praise & Worship, Confessions
7:00pm - Mass with Anointing of the Sick

Fridays During Lent

Fridays | 5:30pm – 8:00pm
Stations of the Cross
5:30pm – 6:00pm
Soup Supper & the Chosen
6:00pm – 8:00pm
An episode of the Chosen will be shown in the Upper Room following dinner.

MAY OUR HEARTS BE TRANSFIGURED



Thursday, April 3, 7:00pm

Please join us for a special Mass at Little Flower to pray for the return of our adult children to the faith (or other loved ones). After Mass, we will pray the Stations of the Cross with reflections written particularly for this same intention. All are welcome!


Pray with us this Lent




claim your hour here!



COME JOIN US!

 **Catholic in Recovery**

Mondays @ 7:00 p.m.
Saint Pius X

 Catholic sacramental recovery and fellowship for those seeking freedom from addictions, compulsions, and unhealthy attachments.

Faith | Freedom | Fellowship

Giving Alms

There has been an increased presence in panhandlers and homeless people on our parish campus. These individuals unfortunately can get aggressive. To protect those at the parish of all ages and maintain the safety of our grounds, we ask that you do not give money to these individuals. Our parish and its people are generous in giving through our outreach programs and blessing bags found in the breezeway.

Thank you for your generous and caring heart!

Jesus wants you.

The “you” who struggles with faith. The “you” who wakes up late or misses church. The “you” who sins and messes up time after time. Don’t give up. Keep seeking Jesus, because He never gives up on you. Find Him here in Eucharistic adoration.

Outreach Report

Whatsoever You Do Financial Assistance Program

In January & February, the “Whatsoever You Do” outreach program financially helped 18 families for a total of \$8,061.07. One family consisted of a single mother & her 4 children. She has been in and out of the hospital and has been unable to find employment. She received your generosity thankfully.

Food Pantry

In January & February, the pantry distributed 3,695 pounds of food to 574 people in 188 different households. We need your help to continue to “feed the hungry.” Please pick up a few of the most needed items for the Food Pantry this week. You can also write a check directly to Little Flower Food Pantry and drop it off at the office if this is more convenient.

MOST NEEDED ITEMS:

- Pasta (1 pound packages of any kind)
- Spaghetti Sauce (24oz)
- Diced Tomatoes (15oz)
- Mac N’ Cheese

Thank you!

Thank you for your generous donations to our Food Pantry & “Whatsoever You Do” Outreach Programs. Your commitment to helping those in need is truly inspiring and has made a profound difference in the lives of many individuals and families in our community.

Solemnity of Saint Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary

On March 19, the Church celebrates the Feast of St. Joseph, honoring the spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary and the foster father of Jesus. Since the 10th century, this date has been observed as the principal feast day of St. Joseph in Western Christianity and commemorates the life of Joseph. Joseph is often referred to as the father in the shadows. In fact, none of Joseph's words are written in the gospels and little was recorded about his life. Here are 10 facts you may not know about this great man!

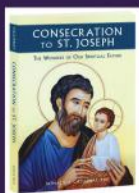
1. In 1955, an additional feast day was declared by Pope Pius XII and is celebrated on May 1 as the Feast of St. Joseph the Worker. This date is also International Workers' Day and believed to reflect Joseph as the patron saint of workers. It reminds us of the dignity found in working.
2. Symbols associated with Joseph include the carpenter's square and lily. The carpenter's square not only symbolizes Joseph's trade but also the concept of truth. The lily represents purity and Joseph's celibate marriage to Mary.
3. Joseph is the patron saint of the Universal Church, families, fathers, expectant mothers, travelers, immigrants, house sellers and buyers, craftsmen, engineers and working people, among others.
4. Joseph is also considered to be the patron saint of the New World, China, Canada, Korea, Mexico, Austria, Belgium, Croatia, Peru, Vietnam and several cities and dioceses. There is an image of a sleeping St. Joseph, a weary traveler fleeing with his family to Egypt – Pope Francis keeps one in his room. The pope places notes of special intercession on pieces of paper under the statue.
5. Although we know Joseph as a working carpenter, he is descended from royal lineage, the line of David.
6. Joseph is portrayed in works of art with grey hair and a beard, an older figure next to Mary and Jesus, and often in the background. In the pope's Apostolic Letter entitled *Patris Corde*, he wrote, "In his relationship to Jesus, Joseph was the earthly shadow of the heavenly Father. He watched over him and protected him, never leaving him to go his own way. We can think of Moses' words to Israel: 'In the wilderness ... you saw how the Lord your God carried you, just as one carries a child, all the way that you traveled' (Deuteronomy 1:31). In a similar way, Joseph acted as a father for his whole life."
7. The scriptures mention nothing of Joseph's age and previous life. However, one early tradition believes he was an older man and a widower with children from a previous marriage.
8. Another image of Joseph depicts a younger, more virile man who is able to protect, walk with, and guide the Holy Family.

Pray with Hallow this Lent



Join the Kids' Lent Challenge: The Little Way!

This Lent, join children Mia and Paul Buckley as they journey through France on a Lenten adventure! Paul is seeking to learn more about evangelization, and Mia will learn how to live out gratitude daily. In this challenge, you and your family will learn about different vocations, dive into saint stories Saints' Alive style, pray, hear homilies, and more!



Want to learn more about St. Joseph?

God desires that all children be committed to the care of a mother and a father. Mary is your spiritual mother, and St. Joseph is your spiritual father. The spiritual fatherhood of St. Joseph is extremely important for your spiritual growth. Pray more about St. Joseph and consider consecrating yourself to him with the help of this book that reflects on the life and titles of St. Joseph.

PARISH NEWS

Auditions for "Fifty Days" Coming up!

Sunday, March 30 | 1:00pm, Parish Center, Room 2/3
Monday, March 31 | 6:30pm Parish Center, Upper Room

The play, "Fifty Days," a sequel to "Gethsemane" which was performed at Little Flower in 2023, covers the period from Jesus' resurrection to the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. Men and women of all ages will be needed to bring this story to life. Your talents can help bring others deeper into this period of Church history. The play will be performed on May 30, 31, and June 1.



MASS FOR THE SICK

Thursday, March 20 | 6:30pm

Please join us for a Mass for the Sick to pray for healing for all of us who need healing. The event begins at 6:15pm with Confessions with Praise and worship beginning at 6:30pm. The Mass starts at 7:00pm. The Anointing of the Sick will be administered during the Mass. There will be prayer teams available after Mass for anyone seeking individual prayer in the Chapel. The Mass for the Sick will be on the third Thursday of every month.

"The thing the church needs most today is the ability to heal wounds and to warm the hearts of the faithful; it needs nearness, proximity. I see the church as a field hospital after battle." ~Pope Francis

Spring Cleanup

April 5 & April 12 | 9:00am-3:00pm

The Garden Ministry is in need of a large number of volunteers. We will be doing a spring cleanup around the church and property on April 5 & April 12, 9:00am-3:00pm.

If you have any of your own tools, please consider bringing them. Some useful items would be garden gloves, knee pads, small garden tools, pruners, tarps, buckets, shovels, rakes, etc.

Questions? Contact Kara Onderdonk at 574-339-7142.



Reclaim your identity today –

School of Identity

April 4-5 | Parish Center

How would your life change if you believed the things that God says about you?

*You are seen. Held. Cared for. Known. Chosen. Protected. **You're His.***

It feels nearly impossible to let these truths sink deeply into our beliefs about ourselves. The negative, ugly, hurtful things are (thanks, Adam and Eve) much easier to buy into. And every time I mess up, it just reinforces that any illusion I had about being unconditionally loved - well, those are just empty words.

Believing in a harsh, cold, and disappointed God comes easier in a world where everything is permitted, but nothing is forgiven. But when we can step away from the loud voices of the world and learn how to hear God say good things about me - even one weekend can change how I see myself, my God, and my whole life.

*Will you dare to believe that a good God exists, and even more than that,
He loves you and chose you to be His beloved child?*

Maybe you've never been on a retreat before.
Maybe you've never heard God say anything good about you,
or to you, or ever at all. Maybe you think we're full of bull.

This one is for you. You're worth so much more than you can
imagine. Discover the truth at the School of Identity.

Register at <https://encounterministries.regfox.com/school-of-identity-south-bend-in>

SONS & DAUGHTERS

retreat for kids

april 5 | 9am to 4pm | little flower

facilitated by NET Missionary Alumni

Outreach Ministries

Financial Assistance

Through our Whatsoever You Do Outreach Program we provide financial assistance to help with utilities to our community.

If you are in need of financial assistance, please go to our website:

<https://LittleFlowerChurch.org/outreach>

Food Assistance

Our Parish Food Pantry is open on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1:30-3:15 pm.

Please bring a photo ID and official piece of mail as proof of address. The Parish Pantry is located in the lower parking lot.

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Tithing

Thank you! We are so encouraged by all the ways that you respond to God's faithfulness and share your gifts. Gifts of prayer, time, and talent serve and support our community in so many meaningful ways. And financial gifts are incredible acts of service that allow us to continue our mission and the work of the Church.

To give online, visit our website or scan this code:



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Our parish has Barnaby's pizza coupons available for sale? Coupons cost \$12 each. You will be supporting local business, and our parish benefits for every coupon sold!

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See listing on the back cover.

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Ouellette & Parent Families
Szumski-Kaczorowski Family
Jane & Clem Tafelski
John F. Jr & Carolyn Tarwacki
Barbara & Richard Tjarksen
The Poor Souls in Purgatory

If you or a loved one would like to be remembered, please contact the Parish Office between now and the end of March.