

# THE PARISH OF ST. THERESA

450 RADIO ROAD • LITTLE EGG HARBOR, NEW JERSEY 08087



**FEBRUARY 1, 2026**

*Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time*



Phone ----- 609 296-2504

Fax----- 609 296-4530

Emergency Phone----- 609 857-3676

Email----- [info@sttheresa450.org](mailto:info@sttheresa450.org)

Web ----- [sttheresa450.org](http://sttheresa450.org)

**Parish Office Business Hours**

Monday through Friday: 8:30 am - 4:00 pm

Closed for lunch: 12:00 noon - 1:00 pm

**PARISH STAFF**

**Pastor**

Rev. Selvam J. Asirvatham  
(Rev. Gerry Johnson)

**Parochial Vicar**

Rev. Dean Gaudio

**Weekend Assistant**

Rev. Phillip Pflieger

**Deacons**

Deacon David O'Connor  
Deacon Jay Werling

**Parish Coordinator /  
Assistant to the Pastor**

Cathy Mazanek

**Parish Secretary**

Katrina Barrett

**Director of Religious Education**

Joana Schmidt

**Director of Music**

Joe Dalton

**Parish Finance Manager/HR**

Chris Gile

**Facilities Manager**

Michael Gavina

**Trustees**

John Kern, Maureen Malsbury

**MASS SCHEDULE**

**Monday - Friday: 8:00 am** (*Daily Chapel*)

**Saturday Vigil: 4:00 pm & Sunday: 7:30 am, 9:00 am & 11:30 am**

**Holy Days of Obligation**

**Vigil Mass: 7:00 pm & Holy Day Mass: 8:00 am & 12:15 pm**

**RECONCILIATION**

**Saturday: 3:00 - 3:45 pm & By appointment**

**DAILY PRAYER & ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT**

The Main Church and the Daily Chapel are opened for private prayer Monday through Friday, 7:30 am - 4:00 pm. The Blessed Sacrament is exposed for Adoration (in the Daily Chapel) Fridays after the 8:00 am Mass and concludes with Evening Prayer & Benediction at 4:00 pm.

**PARISH LIFE**

“The Church draws her life from the Eucharist. This truth does not simply express a daily experience of faith, but recapitulates *the heart of the mystery of the Church.*” (St. John Paul - *On the Eucharist & Its Relationship to the Church*). At the parish of St. Theresa, we strive to embody these words that describe the centrality of the Eucharist for the life and mission of the Church.

We welcome you to join us as we gather to celebrate our faith and worship God. Whatever your present status in the Catholic Church, whatever your current family or marital situation, whatever your past or present religious affiliation, whatever your personal history, age, background, or race, you are a Child of God and you are welcomed, accepted, loved, and respected at the Church of St. Theresa.

**REGISTRATION:** We invite you to officially register as a member of our parish community. By registering you declare your desire to be part of our Catholic community and you are able to stay closely connected with the life of the parish. In order to register, please call or stop by the Parish Office.



WE PRAY FOR OUR SICK

Please remember in your prayers all those members of our parish family and our friends who continuously suffer physically, emotionally, and/or spiritually, and those who tirelessly care for them. Let us especially remember those currently in need of our prayers: *Kevin Brady, Amy Cisyk, Kim Coyle, Maureen Dwyer, Johnny Favro, Mary Ann Geoghegan, Chuck Griffin, Peter Hummel, Justin Marchese, Ro McLaughlin, Art Midgley, Peter Mills, Rev. William Modlin, Rita Murray, Rota O'Neill, Andrew Joseph Ragusa, Samantha Saraceno, Valerie Schaffer, Nick Steiger.*



WE PRAY FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED

We extend our prayers and sympathy to the family and friends of *John Phillips, Jr. and Lucille Steiger.* May they find eternal rest in peace with God our Father.



WE PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY

Please remember in your prayers all those members of our parish family and our friends who are currently deployed, especially: *Sr. Boatswain Gabrielle Fest, LCP1 Christopher Hansen, Airman Staff Sgt. Frank J. Kowalewski, Jr., Airmen Tech Sgt. Amanda Keller, Lt. Jennifer LaFalace, FC2 Paul R. Lund, Pvt. Anthony Mackiewicz, Jr., Pvt. Logan Mora, Sgt. John Murray, USMC, Staff Sgt. Michael Novelli, Spec. Jeffrey Peterson, Jr., Nicholas Roesch, Capt. Amanda Southard, LCDR Christopher J. Worosz, USN, Lt. Matthew A. Worosz, USN.* May the Lord protect them as they protect us.



WE PRAY FOR VOCATIONS

*Heavenly Father, your harvest needs good and faithful men to tend to its many needs. Open their minds and hearts to respond to your call to be priests of and for the Diocese of Trenton, in imitation of your Son Jesus Christ, the Good Shepherd of your flock. Amen.* Follow us on Instagram: **TrentonMakesPriests**



THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Baptisms are held the first and third Sunday of each month at 1:00 PM. Arrangements must be made in person at the Parish Office at least two months in advance. Parents and Godparents are required to attend a Baptismal Prep Class.

THE SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

Arrangements must be made at least one year in advance. Preparations include sessions with a member of the clergy and attendance at a Pre-Cana Conference. For more information, please call the Parish Office.



THE SACRAMENT OF THE SICK

The Catechism of the Catholic Church tells us there is **no need to wait until a person is at the point of death to receive the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick.** A careful judgment about the serious nature of an illness is sufficient. *“Hence, as soon as anyone of the faithful begins to be in danger of death from sickness or old age, the fitting time for him to receive this sacrament has certainly already arrived.”<sup>130</sup>* We welcome anyone who has a physical condition, is anticipating entering the hospital for surgery or tests, or under any emotional distress to avail themselves of this beautiful Sacrament. Please call the Parish Office to schedule the Sacrament with a priest. Please do not wait until the very last minute to call.



## Mass Intentions

### MASSES FOR THIS WEEKEND:

#### SATURDAY – January 31, 2026

4:00 PM – Mary Ann Burghold/ The Lorraines  
 David Davis/ Maureen Wolfe  
 Steven Allocco/ William McKeon  
 Irene Michaud/ Martha & Bob Michaud

#### SUNDAY – February 1, 2026

7:30 AM – Sebastian Panza/ Millie & Phil Cross  
 Edward Soehngen/ Wife, Wanda  
 Rose May/ Ginny & Lou Biely  
 Edward Mergenthaler/ Frank &  
 Barbara Davide

9:00 AM – Joan Rech/ Eileen Tevnan  
 Donel Cashman/ Louise M. O'Brien  
 Thomas Cullen/ John Brady  
 Sonny LaBrunda/ Eileen Tevnan

11:30 AM – Helene & Vincent Morano/ Deborah  
 & Joseph  
 Ed Daproza & Ana Lyn Daproza/  
 Mila  
 Sheryl Worth-Farfalla/ Cathy &  
 Andrew Brys  
 Bernard “Bud” Umbaugh/ John  
 Brady



#### The Sanctuary Light

*In Memory of: Francis Somodi*

Requested by: Family



#### Readings for Next Weekend

February 8, 2026

*Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time*

*Reading I: Isaiah 58:7-10*

*Reading II: 1 Corinthians 2:1-5*

*Gospel: Matthew 5:13-16*



## Mass Intentions

### MASSES FOR THIS WEEK:

#### MONDAY – February 2, 2026

8:00 AM – Bud Umbaugh/ Vince & Jane Poisella  
 Sylvester “Sonny” LaBrunda/ Bill &  
 Mary Decker

#### TUESDAY – February 3, 2026

8:00 AM – Patrick P. Madison/ Wife, Peggy  
 Joseph Faiss/ Rose

#### WEDNESDAY- February 4, 2026

8:00 AM – Thomas Cullen/ Bill & Mary Lou  
 Decker  
 Thomas Auer/ Tim & Kim Coyle

#### THURSDAY – February 5, 2026

8:00 AM – Thomas Auer/ Ron Maldony  
 Brian Tuohy/ Sean Kirby

#### FRIDAY – February 6, 2026

8:00 AM – Margaret Diver/ Margaret Simon  
 Carl Salva/ Rose Faiss

#### SATURDAY – February 7, 2026

4:00 PM – John Kozzi/ Marjorie Annette  
 Minugh Family/ Angleo & Lorraine  
 Pagano  
 Irene Michaud/ Martha & Bob Michaud

#### SUNDAY – February 8, 2026

7:30 AM – Frank Michaels/ Millie & Phil Cross  
 Sylvester LaBrunda/ Lou & Ginny  
 Biely  
 Thomas Cullen/ Lou & Ginny Biely  
 Bud Umbaugh/ Tony & Pam  
 Camiscioni

9:00 AM – Helen Zawaski/ Cathleen & Brian  
 Murray  
 Ryan Yannalfo/ Ian & Cheryl Smith  
 Mary Kean/ Jeff & Grace Green  
 Tom Cullen/ Sandra & Mike

11:30 AM – Rose May/ Annette & Bob  
 Thomas Auer/ Pam & Tony  
 Camiscioni  
 Albert DeSilva/ Mary DeSilva  
 Bonnie Bagamary/ Mary DeSilva



**THIS WEEK**

**Monday, February 2, 2026**

Altar Rosary Society 1:30 PM  
Children's Faith Formation 5:30 PM  
Al-Anon 7:15 PM  
(Faith Formation Center)

**Tuesday, February 3, 2026**

Monthly 50-50 Drawing 10:00 AM (Parish Office)  
Adult Faith Formation 9:30 AM  
(Faith Formation Center)  
Scriptural Rosary 1:30 PM (Daily Chapel)  
Seven Sorrows Rosary 3:00 PM (Church)  
OCIA 7:00 PM  
(Faith Formation Center)

**Wednesday, February 4, 2026**

Scripture Study 9:15 AM (Daily Chapel)  
Choir Practice 7:00 PM (Church)

**Thursday, February 5, 2026**

Adult Faith Formation 9:30 AM & 7:00 PM  
(Faith Formation Center)

**Friday, February 6, 2026**

Seven Sorrows Rosary 3:00 PM (Daily Chapel)  
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament  
8:30 - 4:00 PM  
Evening Prayer with Benediction 4:00 PM  
(Daily Chapel)

**Saturday, February 7, 2026**

Altar Server Training 10:00 AM  
**ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL**  
Monthly 50/50 Tickets on Sale  
***SUPER EASTER 50/50 on Sale***  
(Gathering Space)

**Sunday, February 8, 2026**

**ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL**  
Monthly 50/50 Tickets on Sale  
***SUPER EASTER 50/50 on Sale***  
(Gathering Space)  
***K of C Wing Pick Up***  
(Faith Formation Center)

Children's Faith Formation 9:00 AM  
First Communion Retreat 5:00 – 7:00 PM  
(Church & Faith Formation Center)



**FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**First Reading: Zephaniah 2:3, 3:12-13**

Zephaniah prophesies that the Lord will punish wicked nations along with Jerusalem, but He will shelter from His anger those who practice justice and humility and do no wrong.

**Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:26-31**

Paul tells the Corinthians that God prefers the humble, the weak, the lowly of station - people like themselves. In Christ Jesus they will find wisdom, honor and justice.

**Gospel: Matthew 5:1-12a**

Jesus teaches the Beatitudes in His Sermon on the Mount. He extols those who are merciful, peaceful, lowly, poor in spirit and promises them that *“the reign of God is theirs.”*

**Consider & Reflect**

*“Seek the Lord, all you humble of the earth, who have observed his law, seek justice and humility, perhaps you may be sheltered on the day of the Lord’s anger. For I will leave as a remnant in your midst a people humble and lowly who shall take refuge in the name of the Lord... Blessed are they...”*

How frequently do we hear the word ‘seek’ in the scriptures. ‘Seek first the kingdom of God’... ‘seek and you will find’... Our Christian lives are calls, summons to action, not moments to sit back and do nothing. For this reason, the beatitudes of Matthew today describe what action is required of us to be poor in spirit or dependent upon God, humble, pursuing justice and holiness, be merciful, prayerful and peacemakers. Now is the time to get up and get going.



### Litururgical Ministers Schedule

**Saturday, February 7, 2026- 4:00 PM**

**CELEBRANT:** Fr. Gerry Johnson, Deacon Jay Werling

**READER:** Art Midgley

**ALTAR SERVER:** Kim Werling

**EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY**

**COMMUNION:** Sue Eggert, Jack Stewart, John Kern, Pat O'Hara, Kathy Mills, Susan Geldart

**Sunday, February 8, 2026- 7:30 AM**

**CELEBRANT:** Fr. Gerry Johnson

**READER:** Linda Sherry

**ALTAR SERVER:** Kim Werling

**EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY**

**COMMUNION:** Gail Englert, Arlene Murray, John Minnella, Ginny Biely

**Sunday, February 8, 2026- 9:00 AM**

**CELEBRANT:** Fr. Dean Gaudio, Deacon Jay Werling

**READER:** Jack Cashman

**ALTAR SERVERS:** Jack Krier, Rory Krier

**EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY**

**COMMUNION:** David Laskowski, Terry Walsh, Suzanne Hughes, Gail Buffi, Jayne Ziegler, Kathy Barneman

**Sunday – February 8, 2026- 11:30 AM**

**CELEBRANT:** Fr. Dean Gaudio

**READER:** Carl Klotzbach

**ALTAR SERVERS:** Bart DiFrancia, Sophia DiFrancia

**EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY**

**COMMUNION:** Ann Marie Rehrmann, Cathy Brys, Cora Fernandez, Ann Wilton, Desiree Ott, Nelida Kuhlmann



### **ALTAR SERVERS TRAINING**

There will be a Mandatory Altar Server Training for all current and new Altar Servers on

**Saturday, February 7<sup>th</sup>**  
**at 10:00 AM in the Church**

***We invite all the Young People who may be interested to please come and see what we do and become Altar Servers.***

There are no age restrictions as long as the person has received First Holy Communion.

**NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY!**  
**WE WILL TRAIN YOU!**

***Parents: We hope you would encourage your son or daughter to come forward as an Altar Server. They join so many other groups and activities; wouldn't it be great to have them join one of God's groups!***



If you would like to purchase Altar Flowers in memory of a deceased loved one or for a special occasion, please see Katrina at the Parish Office. The cost is \$50.00 for the week.



### **COLLECTION ENVELOPES**

If you were unable to pick up your envelopes from the Church, you may pick them up at the Parish Office during office hours.

**If you are going away this winter**, please let us know and we will hold your envelopes until you return.

***If you have any questions, please call Katrina at the Parish Office at Ext. 232.***

**BRING THE PASCHAL LIGHT  
INTO YOUR HOME**



Each year, the Church purchases a new Paschal candle for Easter. These candles are lit for baptisms, funerals, and certain liturgies throughout the year. At the end of the year, we are usually left with about half of the Paschal Candle. We had about 4 candles left in our liturgical closet.

***So, what do we do with them?***

A really talented Parishioner in candle making melted down these blessed holy candles and created about 200 smaller candles. The remnants of these candles were melted into 4 colored tins: black, white, gold & silver.

**We are selling these candles for \$5.00 each  
This Weekend**

**January 31 and February 1  
in the Gathering Space**

All proceeds benefit the Parish of St. Theresa.

*We hope you will purchase some and bring the light of Christ into your home this Lenten Season!*



**St. Theresa's MONTHLY  
50/50 Raffle**

Tickets are on sale after all the Masses in the **Gathering Space** and at the Parish Office during office hours. The next drawing will be held **February 3, 2026 at 10:00 AM** at the Parish Office.

***We hope you will support this fundraiser!***



**ST. BLAISE, Bishop and Martyr  
(February 3)**

In honor of the Feast St. Blaise, the Blessing of Throats will take place after all the Masses this weekend, **January 31 & February 1.**



**Collection for January 24, 2026**

*Reflects Saturday Mass ONLY.*

*Sunday Masses were cancelled*

**\$5,509.00**

**Second Collection**

*Church in Latin America*

**\$1,555.00**

**Contributions Online**

*(includes other donations)*

**\$5,409.80**

*Thank you to all those who financially sacrifice each week to support our parish and its ministries!*

**50/50**

**A NEW EASTER SUPER 50/50**

**Drawing to be held  
after the Easter Vigil**

*Book of 4 tickets - \$100.00*

**3 CHANCES TO WIN**

*25% - 15% - 10%*

***On sale after all the Masses every weekend  
in the Gathering Space.***

***We hope you will support this fundraiser!***



**FOOD PANTRY**

**609-296-1345**

**Monday, Wednesday & Friday**

**2:00 PM – 4:00 PM**

**Items needed this month:**

**TOILET PAPER**

*Hamburger Helper type packaged products, ravioli, canned soups, canned pastas, rice side dishes, cake mixes and frosting, small jars of mayonnaise, ketchup, mustard, peanut butter, jelly, pancake syrup, pancake mix, apple juice, and pasta.*

***Thank you! .***



**MOLD PROBLEM**  
**AT THE PRIEST'S RESIDENCE**

Late fall, we discovered a serious mold problem at the priest's residence. We needed to hire a professional mold remediation company (*Mold remediation is the process of identifying, containing, removing, and cleaning mold growth from a building to prevent further spread and restore a healthy indoor environment. It goes beyond simply killing mold; it addresses the underlying moisture problem that caused the mold to thrive in the first place and resolves the problem so it will not happen again*).

**The cost for this process was \$21,035.00.**  
**A generous parishioner has come forward and paid for the entire cost of the project.**

Words cannot fully express our gratitude for their generous donation covering the entire cost of the mold project. Their support ensures a safe and healthy environment for our priests. This contribution reflects their commitment to our Church and Parish Family.

***We hope their kindness will inspire others to contribute and support our community initiatives.***

**FREE INCOME TAX PREPARATION**  
**SPONSORED BY AARP/ IRS**  
**TAX AIDES OF SOUTHERN OCEAN COUNTY.**

**YOU must have an appointment.**  
**Make appointment in person:**  
**FEBRUARY 4, 2026**

**at ST. THERESA'S 9am to 1pm.**  
**NO WALK INS - NO PHONE CALLS**

**DO NOT CALL**  
**THE CHURCH OFFICE**

**OTHER TAX PREPARATION SITE**  
**ST. MARY'S OF THE PINES PARISH CENTER**  
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**Make appointment in person:**  
**FEB.5<sup>th</sup> or FEB 6<sup>th</sup> at ST. MARY'S**  
**THURSDAYS & FRIDAYS, 9AM TO 1PM**



**KNIGHTS**  
**OF COLUMBUS**  
IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.

**KNIGHT'S KORNER #27**

In the 1960s, the Supremes recorded a song "You Can't Hurry Love". I wonder if they knew at the time that no truer words were ever spoken.

Think about that. **YOU CAN'T HURRY LOVE.** Love can't be scheduled. It can't be achieved on a predetermined timeline. Love can't be rushed. It takes as long as it takes. Love says I see you...I hear you...you are worthy.

I care. I am with you. These can't be rushed.

I can't see or hear you if I'm in a hurry. I can't rush being with you or caring for you if I'm in a hurry and call it love. When we are moving too fast, we don't notice the little things that love notices, like a hesitant smile, a discouraged heart, or other people's needs. There are so many things you can only see when you slow down.

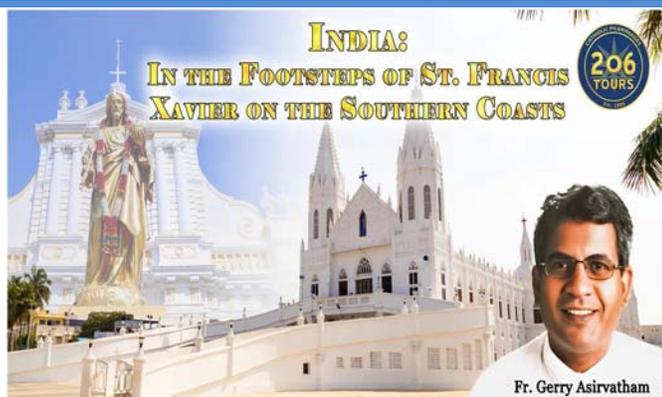
Love notices. Love pays attention. Speed and busy are obstacles to love. The more we add to our schedules, the harder it is to love and allow ourselves to be loved.

Jesus told us to "love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind." This is His first and greatest commandment. His second is to "love your neighbor as yourself." With His own words Jesus gives us the guide to life.

His mandate is love. The speed with which we live our lives is incompatible with love. If love is the greatest mandate that has been placed upon our lives, why is it so often absent or mediocre?

People pursue excellence in every field. Striving for excellence has been sewn into the fabric of our culture. Where are the people striving to be excellent at loving wholeheartedly? Wouldn't it be a shame to pass through life without ever making love the central focus of our lives?

**Slow down. Love one another.**  
**Slowly and Wholeheartedly!**



“Pilgrimages are vital for a Christian’s life of faith” – Pope Leo XIV

**India:**

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Spiritual Director:

Fr. Gerry (Asirvatham) Johnson

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\$500.00 Deposit is due at the time of registration. \*If within 90 days prior to departure, full payment is due at time of Registration.

**Register online [sales@206tours.com](mailto:sales@206tours.com)**

**For more information, call Suzana 1800-206-8687**



**Join Fr. Dean Gaudio on a Special Pilgrimage to the Shrines of Croatia and Bosnia & Herzegovina October 14 - 23, 2026**



St. James Church, Medjugorje

Mostar Bridge

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**Catherine & Ronald Harrison**  
 +1 (856) 905-1525  
[Nutriviserd@gmail.com](mailto:Nutriviserd@gmail.com)



## PARKING LOT REPAIR

You may have noticed that our Parking lot is in disrepair. Over time, wear from traffic and environmental conditions have **caused uneven surfaces, cracks and potholes**. These problems stem from weather conditions, heavy traffic, inadequate drainage, or subpar construction. Beyond being eyesores, they **present dangers to pedestrians and damages to vehicles**. We really cannot postpone the repairs any longer.

Although costly, with **your support and partnership**, we can repair the parking lot in 4 phases. Here are the first two and the cost of each.

### PHASE 1 - Drain Repair: 6 Drain Repairs

**\$15,916.18**

- Saw cut around drain and cut curbs off.
- Remove and dispose of asphalt and concrete inside cut.
- Remove drain grate.
- Completely remove steel frame from the foundation.
- Repair all broken brick and mortar.
- Mortar steel frame back to foundation.
- Fix broken inlet pipe inside one drain.
- Frame and pour new concrete curbs around drains.
- Install 2 inches of fresh hot asphalt base.
- Roll to compaction.
- Install 2 inches of fresh hot asphalt top.
- Roll to compaction.

### PHASE 2 - Asphalt Repair:

Approximately 1,138 sq ft

**\$12,411.62**

- Saw cut proposed areas to be repaired.
- Remove and dispose of old asphalt.
- Install crushed concrete base as needed.
- Roll to compaction.
- Install 2 inches asphalt top.
- Roll to compaction.
- Hot crack fill saw cut joints, for water proofing.
- Remove and dispose of sunken handicap ramp causing water to pool.
- Pour new handicap ramp to correct grade height for water drainage.



### Here's where we need your help!

We are asking all our parishioners to please join us in helping achieve this goal by financially contributing to the cost of this project.

**You are the solution to making our parking lot safe for all!**

**To contribute, mail or drop off checks payable to St. Theresa's to the Parish Office or place in the collection, designating "Parking Lot" in the memo section.**

**For credit cards, electronic payments, please call Chris at 609-296-2504 Ext. 223**

**Thank you for taking the time to consider this proposal.**

**"Together, we can do great things".**  
Mother Teresa

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Thank you for an amazing 2025 season, we look forward to seeing you in the Spring of 2026!

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