

Do good....

**Be rich in
good works....**

BE GENEROUS....

Ready to share....

(1 Timothy 6:18)



St. Theresa
MEMORIAL PARK
all are welcome.

**26th Sunday in Ordinary Time
September 25th, 2016**

The Challenge of Compassion

What place does compassion have in the face of tragedy? Can one have compassion for an enemy in times of stress? Why or why not?

We live in tenuous times. School violence has communities reeling. Terrorism against the nation has the world outraged. We as individual citizens and together as a nation feel violated. The peace we once enjoyed is gone. Only the void uncertainty remains. Anger and words of vengeance fill that void minute by minute. And, all of us want a target as a focal point of our collective bile.

Where does compassion fit into this picture? Where can adversaries enjoy the luxury of showing even the smallest bit of mercy? In the parable of Lazarus and the Rich Man, Jesus brought these questions to the fore. Jesus painted the parable of Lazarus and the rich man in stark contrasts. On the one hand, the rich man lived like royalty (dressed in purple) and partied every day. On the other hand, Lazarus was so poor he would have even eaten from the rich man's garbage; he was so sick that dogs, the animal all Semites hate, came to lick his sores. As detestable as the rich man was, Lazarus was pitiable. [16:19-21]

Both men died. The rich man eternally condemned himself with his hard heart. With all pretense stripped away, the rich man realized his predicament when he looked upon Lazarus in the "bosom of Abraham" (i.e., heaven). But even in his prayer and pain, the rich man treated the lowly Lazarus with contempt. [16:24] When he was denied help, the rich man prayed for a heavenly messenger (Lazarus) to visit his five brothers so they might convert. "Don't they have the Bible?" Abraham responded. This was not sufficient for the rich man. The parable ended with Abraham's response, the rhetorical question of Christian faith; if you do not believe in Scripture, how can you believe in one risen from the dead? [16:31]

Like many other parables, Luke recorded Jesus' words with an eye to his audience and their advisories. In the early church, the Pharisees were seen as rich, while Christians were poor. Pharisees, who became the leaders of universal Judaism after the destruction of the Temple in 70 A.D., ejected Jewish Christians from synagogues late in the first century. Isolated from their own people, Jewish Christians stood alone religiously. Hated as Jews by the general population, they were isolated economically. These Jewish Christians would love to live off the scraps of the rich synagogues. At the same time, Luke recorded the words of Jesus with an eye toward great irony. The question implied in Luke 16:31 can be turned around. "If you do not believe in Scripture, how can you believe in one risen from the dead?" can be restated: "If you do not believe in one risen from the dead, how can you believe in Scripture?" This was direct challenge to the Pharisees. For the Christian, the resurrection of Jesus was the ultimate revelation, one to which all Scripture pointed. In the Christian mind, faith (and the Bible) would be impoverished without the resurrection.

Do we recognize the special place of the poor with our service? When we serve them, do we act as if we are doing them a favor, or do we see they are doing us a favor? Do we not realize their presence is an invitation to intimacy with God?

Who are the poor? Most of the time we connect the poor with those who lack material goods. But, look again at Jesus' parable. The poor are the disdained, the hated, those kept at arms length. Those who lack goods might be distasteful to middle class sensibilities. But there are others who lack that we might want to keep at bay. They are simply not like us. They might even be our enemies. At what point do we show them compassion?

In these tragic times in which we are tempted to cry out for vengeance, let us remember we are to seek justice. For justice allows room for compassion.

How can we see the poor, the sick, the outcast, as God's angels in need of help? How can we view our adversaries as God's agents that challenge us to change?

Scan this QR code with your smartphone
for easy online giving!



Sunday, October 2

Mass

10:00 a.m.

Food & Entertainment

11:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Fellowship Hall

Sunday by Sunday

All are invited to join us for the weekly Adult Education Group, called Sunday by Sunday, which meets from 11:15-12:15 every Sunday in the Brides Room in the back of the church. This is a wonderful opportunity to fellowship and for discussing the Sunday Mass readings.

August Baptisms

Maxwell James Brehm
Daniel Calvo
William Matthew Cramer
Grayson Daniel Dunn
Graham Oliver Hen
Andrew Ho
Anthony Le
Aiden Cruz Melggrejo
Nolan Piper
Abigail Quinones
Clara Grace Self
Madelyn Rose Swanberg
Amelia Nisttahuz Taylor



Congratulations!



*We are in need of someone to
launder our purificators
that we use for Mass.*

*If you are able to help, please
contact Juliette Listi at
jlisti@hmblaw.net*

*for the dates that we are in need of
someone.*

Faithful Citizenship and the Catholic Vote 2016

With the first presidential debate of the 2016 election on Monday night, it is time for us to get serious about the 2016 elections. Our presentation of *"Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship"* is intended to help Catholics and all persons of good will to reflect on the election in the light of the gospel and our Christian faith. Join Deacon Larry Vaclavik for this presentation and discussion about our call to political participation and voting while being true to our Catholic faith. Again, this will be a non-partisan presentation followed by questions and answers. If you are eager or uptight, decided or undecided, bewildered or on the sidelines of this election, this will be a great opportunity for you to gain some clarity about how our political participation can be an expression of faithfulness and civic virtue. Thursday, September 29, from 7:00 to 8:30 pm, in the Fellowship Hall.

****Please note the correct start time is 7:00 pm****

All are welcome!

Black Box Collection

This weekend's Black Box Collection will be an emergency collection for the 2016 Louisiana Flood. As many as 60,000 homes have been damaged or destroyed, and many lives have been drastically changed. This emergency collection will provide humanitarian aid through Catholic Charities and will also assist the pastoral and rebuilding needs of the affected dioceses.

Please give generously.



***Our altar flowers this weekend were donated by
Diane and Librado Padilla
in celebration of their 50th Anniversary.***




dinner *DIALOGUES*

Exploring Houston's Faiths:
Your Muslim Neighbors

Hosted in mosques throughout Houston

Date: Thursday, October 27th
Time: 6:45 p.m.-9:30 p.m.
Registration fee: \$20 per person
www.imgh.org/DDFall2016




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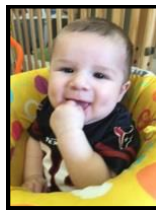


Having donuts with Father Phil.

Now accepting applications PK3—8th for the 2017-2018 school year
Open House October 23 - Register at www.StTheresaSchool.cc
Contact Kelly McCarty, Director of Admissions at k.mccarty@sttheresa.cc

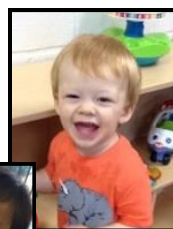
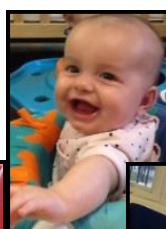


We are keeping up with the times!



As you know, St. Theresa Early Childhood Center is committed to providing high quality childcare while encouraging the physical, social, and

cognitive development of each child in a safe, healthy environment. Part of the commitment to our families is daily communication about their child's activities. We have found a program that allows safe and secure sharing from our caregivers to parents. Photos and videos of the child give parents a view of their day. Daily reports keep them informed of the daily activities and learning experiences that happen while parents are at work. The system requires the use of iPad or iPad minis; however, two of our iPads are no longer working. If you might be able to contribute monetarily to the purchase of new ones, or if you have one that you'd like to put to good use, please contact Cindy Clements, STECC Director, at c.clements@sttheresa.cc. Thank you!



Middle School Youth

THE QUEST MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH LEADERSHIP FORMATION

Saturday, October 22, 10 am—4 pm (lunch included)

St. Dominic's Pastoral Center Auditorium

The Quest is a leadership program designed for youth in grades 6th-8th. The program introduces youth to the Servant-Leadership model in a three year cycle by providing them with the building blocks needed for peer ministry.

Through skits, community building games, activities, workshops, and prayer, each year youth will focus on a different skill of leadership while discovering and enriching their own gifts.

Cycle A covers: What is Servant Leadership?, Exploring Your Gifts, Vocations, Small Group Facilitation as well as Brainstorming and Program Ideas section. This will help youth to create and implement program ideas for the coming year.

If your middle school child would like to attend this one-day program, please contact Adrian Leal at youthministry@sttheresa.cc for more info and to register.

\$25 per person. Deadline to register is October 9.

Helpful Numbers

Houston Police

For Emergency/Life Threatening Calls: 911

Non-Emergency Calls: 713- 884-3131
www.houstonpolice.org

Domestic Violence

The Bridge Over Troubled Waters
24 Hour Hotline: 713-473-2801
www.thebridgeovertroubledwaters.org

Narcotics Anonymous (NA)

713-661-4200
www.na.org

Sex Addicts Anonymous (SAA)

713- 405-1142
www.houstonsaa.org

Counseling (Grief, Family, etc.)

Catholic Charities:
713-526-4611
www.catholiccharities.org

Families of Addicts

Al-Anon Family Groups
713-683-7227
www.al-anon.alateen.org

Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)

713-686-6300
www.aa.org

Overeaters Anonymous (OA)

713-973-6633
www.oahouston.org



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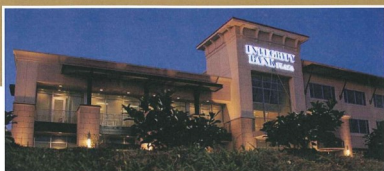
Our official Facebook page is up
and running!

[www.facebook.com/
StTheresaMemorialPark](http://www.facebook.com/StTheresaMemorialPark)

You can also access the page
from St. Theresa's home page:

www.sttheresa.cc

Make sure you Like us and visit
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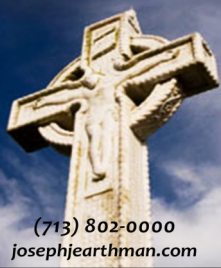
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St. Theresa parishioner

Sacraments

Baptism

Contact Ginger Tamborello or visit our website for more information.

First Communion & Reconciliation

Contact Deandra Mackey or visit our website for more information.

Matrimony

Application for Annulment

Contact Patrick Miral or visit our website for more information.

Confirmation

Contact Deandra Mackey or visit our website for more information.

Reconciliation

Saturday

4 pm-5 pm

Thursday

5:30 pm-6:15 pm

The Week Ahead...

Monday, September 26

7:00 am Mass
6:30 pm Meditation Prayer Group, Mary Chapel
7:00 pm Book Club, Brides Room

Tuesday, September 27

7:00 am Mass
7:30 am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
6:00 pm ECC Parent Group, FH Lounge

Wednesday, September 28

7:00 am Mass
4:30 pm JAM Children's Choir, Church
6:00 pm School Board, FH Board Room
6:30 pm Women's Encounter, FH Lounge
6:45 pm Baptism Class, Fellowship Hall
7:00 pm Spanish Prayer Group, Brides Room
7:00 pm Legión de María, Sacristy
7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal, Church Choir Loft
8:15 pm Men's AA, Fellowship Hall

Thursday, September 29

7:00 am Mass
7:30 am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
5:30 pm Reconciliation & Mass
6:30 pm Youth Gathering, FH Lounge
7:00 pm Voting Talk, FH Lounge
7:30 pm Men's Encounter, FH Board Room

Friday, September 30

6:45 am Rosary for Peace and Respect for Life
7:00 am Mass

Saturday, October 1

12:00 pm Baptism
4:00 pm Reconciliation
5:30 pm Mass

Sunday, October 2

7:00 am Feast Day
8:00 am Mass
8:30 am RCIA, Church Office
10:00 am Mass
11:30 am Spanish Mass
2:30 pm American Legion, FH Lounge
5:00 pm HS Faith Formation, Church Office
5:30 pm Mass

Rosary for Peace and Respect for Life

September 30 & October 7—Len Emge
October 14 & 21—Robert Braun

Mass Intentions

Saturday, September 24

5:30 PM Peter Lam Phan †
Dorothy Hilligiest †

Sunday, September 25

8:00 AM Lee & Barbara Bundick †
10:00 AM Pro-Populo (Parishioners)
11:30 AM All Souls
5:30 PM Dewey Leonard Coles, Jr. †

Monday, September 26

7:00 AM Phillip & Christine Tusa †

Tuesday, September 27

7:00 AM Hazel, Harold, Eve &
Deborah Vicknair †

Wednesday, September 28

7:00 AM Mary Urbanovsky †
8:05 AM All Souls

Thursday, September 29

7:00 AM Vincente Doan †
Cecilia Lam Suong †
Leona Cicherski †
6:30 PM Julian Grasley †

Friday, September 30

7:00 AM Kimcuc Ngo †
Maria Khanh-Kim Nguyen †

Saturday, October 1

5:30 PM Frank Czerewaty †

Sunday, October 2

8:00 AM Mrs. Arensdorf †
10:00 AM Pro-Populo (Parishioners)
11:30 AM Stevenson Family
Mulvihill Family
5:30 PM Pamela J. Raymond †

**For Mass intentions, contact Deandra
in the church office.*

Next Week's Reader and EMHC Schedule

Saturday, October 1

5:30 pm (Team 3)
Keith Kaposta
Andi Maceo

Sunday, October 2

8:00 am (Team 1)
Jack Barnett
Suzanne Clevenger
10:00 am (Team 2)
Joe Earthman
Claire Huemann
5:30 pm (Team 2)
Ann Bixby
Betty Bixby

www.StTheresa.cc
6622 Haskell, Houston, TX 77007
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Pastor: Fr. Phil Lloyd, ext. 312
britishbulldog@sttheresa.cc

Deacons

Deacon Larry Vaclavik
deaconlarry@sttheresa.cc

Deacon Bill Wilson
deaconbillwilson@gmail.com

Deacon Juan de Dios Perez

SCHOOL STAFF

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Maintenance Supervisor

Andras Bandi, ext. 302
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Weekend Masses: Saturday Vigil: 5:30 pm

**Sunday: 8:00 am, 10:00 am,
11:30 am (Spanish), 5:30 pm**

**Daily Mass: Monday through Friday at 7 am,
Thursday at 6:30 pm**