



ST. THERESE LITTLE FLOWER PARISH

"I will send down a shower of roses
from the heavens, I will spend my
heaven by doing good on earth."

— St. Thérèse of Lisieux



MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday Masses

Sunday.....9:00 a.m.

Weekday Mass

Wednesday.....12:00 p.m.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Contact Fr. Matt Rotert

Office Hours

Monday-Friday.....9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Closed Noon-1:00 p.m.

Tel: 816.444.5406.....Fax: 816.444.9345

Senior Center.....816.444.3514

Website:.....www.stlfkc.org

Diocesan Ombudsman:.....816.812.2500

Kathleen Chastain, Victims' Advocate:....816.392.0011

MISSION STATEMENT

We, God's people, are a remnant whose faith has been tested and tempered by the transitions in our neighborhoods and our church. We do not have one common ethnic, religious, social, or economic background. We do have a common experience, of being the diverse but complementary members of the one Body of Christ. Because of this common experience, We choose to be St. Therese Parish Community.

We choose to use our gifts to build up the Body of Christ Incarnate here. This mission must take place both within the faith community and in reaching out to others. We confess the need to become more aware of one another and of the Lord calling us to be united in God's spirit. We will strive to develop this awareness not only for our own sake, but so that we may become credible and inviting to those seeking Christ and His Gospel.

We answer this calling first by faithfully sharing the Word and breaking Bread together. We then realize our vocation to affirm one another's gift, to reach out to the poor, to work for justice, to help form young minds and hearts, to acknowledge the place of the elders in our community, and to create a climate of fellowship for all people.

Parish Calendar

Sunday, July 18, 2021

15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass—9:00 a.m. Celebrant: Fr. Ravi

Wednesday, July 21, 2021

Mass—Noon in the Church

Bible Study—5:00—6:00 p.m. in the Senior Center

Thursday, July 22, 2021

Diane Marrin—Celebration of Life

Visitation 10:00 a.m. Funeral Mass 11:00 a.m.

Sunday, July 25, 2021

15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass—9:00 a.m. Celebrant: Fr. Matt

PRAY FOR OUR COMMUNITY

St. Therese Little Flower Community prays for the following:

Bridgette Atkinson, Marian Barackman, Wanda Battle, David Biersmith, Mary L. Brown, Louis Byrd, John Chapman, Juanita Cherry, Elliott Clark, Lisa Coan, Quinn Cogan, Evelyn Coleman, Ethel Collins, Charles Coulter, Ruth Dakotas, Barbara Jo Davis, Pamela Denson, Carol Dodd, Ronnell Foster, Jessie Mae Frazier, JoAnn Freeman, Ernestine Iseman, Dan Ivory, Elijah Jones, Joyce Jones, LaToya Jones, Maggie Karnes, Marty Kata, Susan Kelly, Keith Kloster, Zach Kloster, Mary Bridget Kratofil, Raymond LaNear, Aidan Liesveld, Jim Lipps, Stephen Loston, Family of Diane Marrin, Sr. Rose McLarney, Bob McCombs, Helen McVay, Doris Moore, Venus Moore, Denise Nichols, John R. O'Malley, Irene Phillips, Luqrecia Preston, Marilyn Richardson, Flanord Rideau, Judy Rieck, Ed Rogers, Fr. Bob Rost, Donald Sanders, Oden Sainte, Lee John Scott, Sharon Sears, Bill Seiter, Arthur Shelton, Allen Shelton, Jeremiah Smith, Olivia Smith, Tracy Smith, Elaine Stevenson, Michael Stevenson, Sue Svec, Karen Talley, Blanche L. Thomas, Georgia Walker, Joshua Webb, Jr., Family of Jesse Wilkes, Bobby J. Willis, Antwine Williams, the elderly and infirmed, the chronically ill and caregivers; for those who attend to the dying and grieving; for medical professionals and first responders; for those seeking a better life for their families.

For those suffering from Covid-19 and their families, for the many disabled who are fighting the virus, for those in hospitals and nursing homes who cannot have visitors and families isolated from their loved ones, those who have died and the many health care workers and staffs who serve those who are ill, even at their own risk.

For the homeless and those lost in this world; for those who harbor hatred, those whose right to livelihood and respect are disregarded, those who live in fear and especially for those who have no one to pray for them. For all of God's people in this most difficult time.

For the brokenness that exists anywhere, in our hearts, minds, body and spirits, that we might be healed. For any brokenness that exists in our city, country and world, that we might be instruments of healing and peace.

"Heal Our Land, Lord. Heal Our Land!"



Pray with Scripture...

July 18, 2021

Jeremiah 23: 1-6

Psalms 23: 1-3, 3-4, 5, 6

Ephesians 2: 13-18

Mark 6: 30-34

July 25, 2021

2 Kings 4:42-44

Psalms 145:10-11, 15-16, 17-18

Ephesians 4:1-6

John 6:1-15

IN EVERYTHING
give Thanks

YOUR GIFTS	Week of July 11, 2021	% of July Budget
Offertory	\$3,508.00	22%
Emergency Assistance	\$ 347.00	14%
Senior Center	\$ 655.00	66%
Other	\$ 6,001.00	
Total	\$10,511.00	23%

Please consider giving via bank draft from your savings or checking account or by debit or credit card. Go to stlfkc.org and click on "Give" to sign up or to submit your offering. You can select Regular Tithe, Emergency Assistance, or Senior Center. You also have the option of having your donation submitted on a recurring basis. Please be as generous as you are able, pray for us all and stay safe! Donna Arnone, Business Manager can assist in setting up your online giving.

If you want to discontinue receiving envelopes, please send message to: Donna at: busmgr@stlfkc.org.

Weekly Reflection on God's WordJeremiah 23: 1-6 Psalms 23: 1-3, 3-4, 5, 6Ephesians 2: 13-18 Mark 6: 30-34

Being from cattle country, I don't know much about sheep, a focus of today's readings. When I searched for information about sheep and a shepherd's responsibility, it became clear to me why Jesus used those metaphors to reveal God's love and concern for us.

How many times do we read in the Scriptures....do not be afraid...peace be with you...do not be anxious? Thinking about the Good Shepherd in today's gospel reminded me of the numerous times I have heard and read those words. What do Good Shepherds do? They calm their sheep, they help them feel less anxious by their constant presence. The voice of a shepherd alone can settle a frightened flock.

Jesus does not want us to be so anxious and fearful as he knows what fear does to us. Fear robs of our ability to think clearly, to believe things about others we know aren't true. It diminishes our capacity to feel joy, to value what we do have versus fretting about what we don't have. Jesus wants us to know that a life lived anxiously or in fear, was not the reason he died for us. Jesus died to bring us the fullness of life, not a small circle we sometimes draw to feel 'safe' in.

Fear hurts our ability to connect with others...to see another's pain or hardships. We don't have to solve anyone's problems, but can we tame our fears and anxieties enough to be able to do something to relieve someone else's suffering?

My 89 year old father is still grieving the loss of his wonderful wife 13 months ago. For a while, he was very angry with God and was often bitter about the turn his life had taken. One day I stopped in to say 'hello' and he had a smile on his face. He had just hung up the phone and told me the widow thanked him for reaching out to her as she felt so alone. Dad's phone call helped her see she wasn't abandoned, that someone cared for her. At 89, my dad can only do limited Deacon duties now, but he has started a phone ministry.

There are about 15 people weekly he checks in on and his calls have become a lifeline for many of those people. At the same time, this new ministry has been so life giving to him. He still fiercely misses my mom, but his bitterness and anger have been significantly diminished.

by Julie Kalkowski—Creighton University Online Ministries
(continued—next column)

**Public Rosary for Racial Justice
July 27, 2021— 9:00 AM**

Please join many other Kansas City parishes at a public Rosary for Racial Justice on **Tuesday morning, July 27**. We will **gather at 8:30 a.m.** at the south end of Illus Davis Park across from City Hall on 11th St. At **8:50** we will walk to City Hall where, outside, we will recite the Sorrowful Mysteries.

This is intended as a **peaceful show of support** for our Black and Brown sisters and brothers and to demonstrate to the wider community that Kansas City Catholics support them in their struggles.

Sponsored by EmbRace Justice Ministry – St Elizabeth Church.

In our quest to be more active in the community in the areas of social justice, you are invited to join in this event and wear your St. Therese t-shirt (if you have one).

Weekly Reflection on God's Word—continued

The Good Shepherd came to bring us peace and to reduce our fears by teaching us we are never alone, that God is always with us. I also think Jesus tried to help us see those on the margins. My sense is that Jesus is calling us to move beyond the flock of "me" to the flock of "we." And based on my father's experience, the flock of "we" is a much better place to be.

How to become part of that flock of "we" will be a work in progress for all of us as it seems like fear and hate are so much easier to summon than love and understanding.

Several years ago, I made a silent retreat at the Jesuit retreat house on Lake Winnebago in Oshkosh, WI. The beauty of my surroundings and the peacefulness of that holy ground refreshed my spirit and helped me see what was limiting my life...what was making my circle so small. Sitting by the lake and watching the pelicans brought me this prayer that is nudging me towards the peace the Good Shepherd is calling us to.

(Thanks to St. Francis for the template.)

Gracious God, Help me move...

From judging to understanding

From anticipating to participating

From fear to trust

From controlling to including

From feeling overwhelmed to gratitude for my full life

And from anxiety to your peace!

I ask this in Jesus' name. Amen

SERVING A WORLD IN NEED

(Excerpted from the CSJ website)



The Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet St. Louis Province respond to their call to mission, focusing their efforts through the ministries of **prayer, direct service, consciousness raising** and **systemic change**.

Whether providing transitional services for women out of prison, support for immigrants and refugees, or education for young women in need, we work with compassion and mercy to make an impact in the communities we serve.

Grounded in Prayer—We are called by God's great love to share that love with others. In our love of God, the Source of all life, we find our unity with the dear neighbor and with all of creation. This relationship of love, which we call prayer, gives life to our lives and our works—our way of life.

Serving the Neighbor We Call "Dear"—We see in every neighbor the face of God. And so we are energized to serve the dear neighbor wherever we are: at home, at the border, or a continent away. Often this means serving those who are marginalized by society. We do this in direct and indirect ways through education, healthcare, and social services that provide a way out of poverty, insecurity, and fear.

Speaking the Truth in Love—Listening and pondering new ideas and relevant truths—whether they be insights into the universe story, the hidden sins of racism, or the plight of the immigrants—stretches us. Through public statements, letters to our government representatives, public protests, and other peaceful action, we invite others to consider with us life from a different perspective ... one of unity and love.

Bringing New Life to Old Systems

We are all connected. That's why it's not enough to feed the hungry; we must ask *why* they are hungry, so that we can address it. Asking the "why" is what systemic change requires, because it allows us to fix issues at their root. We keep our eyes on the big picture, addressing problems that deny people their dignity and force those in need to bear the burden of unjust systems.

We offer prayers to the Sisters of St. Joseph as they begin the 2021 Virtual Assembly on July 28, 2021. Their theme, "Being Connected and Accountable" focuses them on continuing to serve in ministry now and into the future.




Blue Hills Beautiful: Blue Hills Community Neighbors' Project.

A couple of years ago the Neighborhood Association designated a vacant lot that is on the north end opening to the Blue Hills Neighborhood and erected a Neighborhood Marker, a welcoming sign for people to our community. Then weekly neighborhood clean ups started and several rose bushes were planted on the corners of the neighborhood streets.

This year we are continuing with the weekly neighborhood clean-ups (socially distanced of course!) and bringing in Dumpster/Trucks from the city to take away the trash and debris and leaf and brush. The second week in June the dumpster/trucks were here at St. Therese. Each week they are at a different location for the convenience of neighborhood families. This coming **Saturday, July 24th, the trucks will be at 5915 Park Avenue.**

In addition to the clean-ups, we are beautifying the vacant J. J. Pershing school building at 5915 Park in partnership with the Kansas City Art Institute. In the fall of 2019 KCAI murals were painted on the boarded up windows of the building. Murals will again be painted this fall.




CALL FOR IDEAS
from BLUE HILLS residents

In the fall of 2019, students from KCAI created murals for Pershing School located at 5915 Park Ave.

We are painting more murals this Fall and **WE WANT YOUR INPUT!**

What kind of images would you like to see?
All suggestions are welcome; they can be general (civil rights, peace, justice...) or specific (historic figures or events). These murals belong to Blue Hills residents, so please share your vision with us!

Please submit as many ideas as you like to PershingSchoolMural@gmail.com or through our Facebook Page: [facebook.com/PershingSchoolMurals](https://www.facebook.com/PershingSchoolMurals)

Come to the July BHNA meeting to learn more about the project.
BHNA meeting: July 20, 6 pm. 3309 Woodland Ave, 64110
www.bhna.org

The Neighborhood Association is asking everyone what kind of images you would like to see? All suggestions are welcome. They can be general (civil rights, peace, justice...) or specific (historic figures or events). These murals belong to the community, so please share your vision.

Please submit as many ideas as you like to:

PershingSchoolMurals@gmail.com or through
[Facebook.com/PershingSchoolMurals](https://www.facebook.com/PershingSchoolMurals).

Senior Center Hours

Mon—Wed, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Daily Lunch Hours:

Mon.-Wed, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Over 60 yrs. — \$3 suggested donation — All others \$5.75

Reservation at Sign-In Table; 1 day in advance

“Thank You”

St. Therese Senior Center — 816.444.3514

All seniors, volunteers and visitors must wear a mask.
Your temperature will be scanned as you enter the Center.

Senior Center News



SHOES—SHOES—SHOES!!

*“Shepherd me, O God, beyond my wants,
 Beyond my fears, from death into life.
 God is my shepherd, so nothing I shall want,
 I rest in the meadows of faithfulness and love,
 I walk by the quiet waters of peace.
 Gently you raise me and heal my weary soul,
 You lead me by pathways of righteousness and truth,
 My spirit shall sing the music of your Name.
 Though I should wander the valley of death,
 I fear no evil, for you are at my side,
 Your rod and your staff, my comfort and my hope.
 You have set me a banquet of love in the face of hatred,
 Crowning me with love beyond my pow’r to hold.
 Surely your kindness and mercy
 follow me all the days of my life;
 I will dwell in the house of my God forevermore.”*

Parish Staff

Fr. Matt Rotert, Pastor	mrotert@stlfkc.org
Fr. RavinJose, Associate Pastor	ravinjose@stlfkc.org
Sr. Helen Alder, Parish Nurse	816.942.2746
B.J. Atkinson, Director, Emergency Assistance	
	bjatkinson@stlfkc.org
Donna Arnone, Business Manager	busmgr@stlfkc.org
Tami Chestnut, Director, Gospel Choir	816.812.1826
	tchestnut@stlfkc.org
Sharon Sanders, Director, Senior Center	816.444.3514
	ssanders@stlfkc.org
Estelle Tunley, Director, Liturgy & Music	etunley@stlfkc.org
Sharon Sanders, Safe Environment Coordinator	
	ssanders@stlfkc.org
Diocesan Ombudsman: Joe Crayon	816.812.2500
	crayon@ombudsmankcsj.org
Kathleen Chastain, Victims' Advocate	816.392.0011
	chastain@diocesekcsj.org

Pastoral Council

Diana Burdett (Chair)	816.523.0137	tv9gal@gmail.com
Elliott Clark	816.896.2907	elliottclark50@att.net
Alania Davis	816.716.1044	EVRL8@hotmail.com
Roberta Gumbel	917.826.5688	gumbelr@msn.com
Brian Reeves	816.728.-0883	BeKayR@aol.com
Peggy Baker	913.269.3319	PTPeggy@gmail.com
Jesse Frazier	816.444.0736	jesse.frazier@kcmo.org
Roberta Miller	816.686.4406	millerroberta50@gmail.com

Finance Committee

Bridgette Atkinson	816.778.2953	abridgette89@gmail.com
Carmen Denvir	816.872.2517	cdenvir514@gmail.com
Sharon Hardy (Chair)	816.898.9251	jhardy004@centurytel.net
Hazel McAllister	816.260.4787	hb50mcallister@gmail.com
Bill Poppie	913.209.3411	bpoppie1947@gmail.com

Anointing of the Sick: Sacrament takes place at seasonal communal celebrations and may be requested as needed and offered after Mass.

Eucharist for the Sick: Contact the Parish Office.

Baptism, Catechumenate Inquiry, Marriage Preparation and

Sacrament of Reconciliation—contact Fr. Matt

We are a member parish of Holy Rosary Credit Union

The Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph is committed to combating sexual abuse in the Church. If you are a victim of sexual abuse, or if you observe or suspect sexual abuse:

1. **Call the Missouri Child Abuse Hotline** at 1.800.392.3738 (if the victim is currently under the age of 18), and
2. **Contact your local law enforcement** agency or call 911, and
3. After reporting to these civil and law enforcement authorities, **report suspected sexual abuse of a minor or vulnerable adult** to the Diocesan Ombudsman Joe Crayon at 816.812-2500 or crayon@ombudsmankcsj.org, if the abuse involves a priest, deacon, employee, or volunteer of the Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph. The Diocese has a sincere commitment to providing care and healing resources to victims of sexual abuse and their families. Please contact Victim Advocate Kathleen Chastain at 816.392.0011 or chastain@diocesekcsj.org

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