



# 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.....8:00 & 9:15 a.m.

### Weekday Masses in the Chapel

Wednesday and Friday.....12:00 p.m.

### Sacrament of Reconciliation

Contact Fr. Matt Rotert or Fr. Bill Fox

### 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.

<h1>Parish Calendar</h1>
<b>Sunday, May 3, 2020 — Fourth Sunday of Easter</b> Mass — Available on YouTube (St. Peter's KC after)
<b>Wednesday, May 6, 2020</b> Private Mass
<b>Friday, May 8, 2020</b> Private Mass
<b>Sunday, May 10, 2020 — Fifth Sunday of Easter</b>



*St. Therese Little Flower community prays for the following:*

Bridgette Atkinson, Marian Barackman, Wanda Battle, Ben Bongers, Mal Brewer, Liesa Brown, Mary L. Brown, Louis Byrd, Juanita Cherry, Randy Chestnut, Lisa Coan, Quinn Cogan, Evelyn Coleman, Barbara Jo Davis, Pamela Denson, Carol Dodd, Jessie Mae Frazier, Joann Freeman, Col. Steve Harvey, Dan Ivory, Elijah Jones, Joyce Jones, LaToya Jones, Marty Kata, Wenda King, Keith Kloster, Zach Kloster, Raymond LaNear, Doreen Lacy, Charles Lidge, Aidan Liesveld, Stephen Loston, Bob McCombs, Helen McVay, Doris Moore, Venus Moore, Margaret Mulligan, Luqrecia Preston, Marilyn Richardson, Flanord Rideau, Judy Rieck, Ed Rogers, Fr. Bob Rost, Oden Sainte, Joseppi Sandoval, Lee John Scott, Sharon Sears, Arthur Shelton, Allen Shelton, Jeremiah Smith, Tracy Smith, Elaine Stevenson, Michael Stevenson, Blanche L. Thomas, Sr. Joan Tolle, Joshua Webb, Jr., Bobby J. Willis, Jesse Wilkes, Mildred Wilkes, Antwine Williams, the elderly and infirmed, the chronically ill and their caregivers; for those who attend to the dying and grieving; for medical professionals and first responders. For those who seek a better life for their families.

**Special intentions for those suffering from Covid-19 and their families, for those in hospitals and nursing homes who cannot have visitors and families isolated from their loved ones, for those who have died and the many health care workers and staffs who serve those who are ill, even at their own risk. For all of God's people in this most difficult time.**

*For the homeless and those lost in this world; for those who harbor hatred and especially for those who have no one to pray for them.*

**BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Please submit requests for bulletin announcements by **Noon on Wednesday to [bulletin@stlfc.org](mailto:bulletin@stlfc.org).**

## WEEKLY PRAYER

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF MAY 3, 2020**

- SUN 5/03** Acts 2:14a, 36-41/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 [1]/1 Pt 2:20b-25/Jn 10:1-10
- MON 5/04** Acts 11:1-18/Ps 42:2-3; 43:3, 4 [cf. 3a]/Jn 10:11-18
- TUE 5/05** Acts 11:19-26/Ps 87:1b-3, 4-5, 6-7 [Ps 117:1a]/Jn 10:22-30
- WED 5/06** Acts 12:24—13:5a/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6 and 8 [4]/Jn 12:44-50
- THR 5/07** Acts 13:13-25/Ps 89:2-3, 21-22, 25 and 27 [2]/Jn 13:16-20
- FRI 5/08** Acts 13:26-33/Ps 2:6-7, 8-9, 10-11 ab [7bc]/Jn 14:1-6
- SAT 5/09** Acts 13:44-52/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 [3cd]/Jn 14:7-14
- SUN 5/10** Acts 6:1-7/Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19 [22]/1 Pt 2:4-9/Jn 14:1-12



**REMEMBER**  
*in your prayers*

Please pray for the repose of the soul of **Ralph Iseman, Jr.**, uncle of **Karen**

**McDonald.** He went to heaven on April 27th and will be greatly missed. He is the oldest brother of Karen's dad.

We also offer condolences to **Dejame Cross** and family at the loss of her uncle, **Ron Cross Sr.** last month and to **Sandy Jones** and family at the loss of her Cousin, **Craig Cowens.** We pray special blessings on these families.

**We are at \$12,137 of the \$15,600 budget set for the month of April. That is 78% of April's budgeted giving. Please send in your envelopes or give online at [stlfc.org](http://stlfc.org) (Give) .**

<b>YOUR GIFTS</b>	<b>Week of April 26</b>	<b>% of April Budget</b>
Offertory	<b>\$395</b>	<b>3%</b>
Emergency Assistance	<b>\$300</b>	<b>11%</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$695</b>	<b>3%</b>

We look forward to the day when we can again worship together at St. Therese. In the meantime, we continue to support Emergency Assistance needs and our facilities. Please consider giving via bank draft from your savings or checking account or by debit or credit card. Go to [stlfc.org](http://stlfc.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 choosing to have your donation submitted on a recurring basis. Please be as generous as you can, pray for us all and stay safe!

**You can also contact Warren Blevins, Business Manager at the church office for help setting up your online giving.**

## THE CATHOLIC STEWARD



Acts 2:14a, 36-41; Ps 23:1-3a, 3b4-6; 1 Pt 2:20b-25; Jn 10:1-10

Today's readings on this fourth Sunday of Easter offer us a glimpse into the heart of our loving Savior. He is the Good Shepherd and we can confidently place our trust in Him as we live the stewardship way of life.

This endearing image of Jesus as shepherd, and His personal love for each one of us, is described in our Gospel passage from John, through the words of Jesus Himself. Here we read Jesus' description of Himself as the "Good Shepherd." He says of Himself, "The sheep hear his voice, as the shepherd calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has driven out all his own, he walks ahead of them and the sheep follow him, because they recognize his voice."

This aspect of our Lord's tender and personal love for each one of us is a compelling reason to embrace the stewardship way of life — in the offering of our time, talent and treasure to Him, we can express our gratitude to Him for the incomprehensible love He has for us.

Embracing this way of life certainly requires trust on our part. But Christ has proven Himself worthy of our trust. He "bore our sins in His body." He calls Himself our shepherd and He offers Himself as the guardian of our souls. He has withheld nothing of Himself and His goodness from us. He would never ask anything of us that would bring us harm. He tells us "I came so that [you] might have life and have it more abundantly."

This Easter season, let us resolve to entrust ourselves and our lives gratefully to Him.

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**It's been wonderful hearing from members of our Church Family. We'd love to hear from as many as possible. Please take a few minutes to jot down some of your experiences during this time of separation. Let's use this opportunity to stay connected with the St. Therese Community. Send your message to:**  
[bulletin@stlflkc.org](mailto:bulletin@stlflkc.org)

## News from Parishioners

**Dear Friends:** Last week I forgot to mention Ed Rogers, who had a brain tumor. The tumor wasn't cancer. He is doing well but unable to drive for 6 months because he had a seizure before surgery and he isn't allowed to go back to work for 8 weeks. His wife, my niece, says he is doing very well but gets really tired. Please continue to pray for him because he needs to be able to work and his job is very physical. Thank you and love to all. **Sr. Helen Alder**

**Estelle Tunley:** All is well after nearly two months of our new reality. On March 15, the Tunleys returned from Maeson's baseball tournament in Arizona, that was rained out and not one game was played. Of course we made the most of the trip and always hoped the next day would be dry. After all, our party of seven was filled with much family love and personality. We had plenty of time to experience some of the best and most beautiful of the Phoenix area. We came back early to two of my sisters in the hospital (thankfully the same hospital). I got to see them once before the hospitals were closed to visitors then got used to doctors' rounds by phone. They are both doing pretty well and thankfully, we didn't have to deal with stresses of families overwhelmed with the Covid-19 virus. This fairly brief experience gave me a special empathy and appreciation for families who are separated from critically ill loved ones, unable to visit, unable to be there for them. Returning to an "at home" world required some grocery shopping, supplies from St. Therese and brushing up and learning new technology, So I learned a lot about ZOOM videoconferencing, live-streaming and phone and computer maintenance necessary to handle the large files that I was subjecting them to, of course with the help of my friend, Ruth Dakotas. ZOOM absolutely comes in handy for our "family gatherings", STLFC staff meetings and more. I am now getting to those way overdue projects at home and can't wait until the donation sites are open again. I have found things that I have looked for many hours, finally matching up the socks that seemed to get divorced from their mates months ago, changing things over from winter to spring/summer, getting estimates on outdoor projects, reorganizing, catching up on things that seemed to be expendable when you're super busy, making surprise family porch drops just to bring a smile, experimenting with "gourmet" dishes and so on and so on. I have watched many Masses and other church services and appreciate the benefit of rewind to go back and be reminded of a key message. I have imagined the possibilities and so look forward to what it will be like to join (in person) again with my St. Therese Family... Oh Happy Day!!!

**Bridgette Atkinson:** Hi St. Therese Family! I miss you all so much. I got home from three months in the hospital and rehabilitation center just in time for the stay at home order. I am considered an essential employee because I work for a utility. I work every other day in the office. The days that I am not in the office, I work from home. I also attend Physical Therapy three times a week. So I stay pretty busy during the week. I am very careful though. I have gloves, a mask and wipes with me at all times and I practice Social distancing. My recover from all of my surgeries has been slow but steady. I'm happy to have extra time to rest and heal. The next couple of weeks I will also be focusing on Packing so I can move into a one level apartment. I hope everyone is staying safe and well. Love you all.

**Hazel McAllister** - My family and I are doing very well. We have been blessed with good health, so far, not to have been touched by this pandemic. The quarantine has been a lot to deal with. After not seeing my grandchildren for nearly five weeks, I wrapped myself up with mask and gloves and went to their house yesterday. They were just as happy to see me as I was to see them. It's amazing what little arms wrapped around your neck can make you feel! I also drove my car to the church and parked in the front on the street and just sat there for awhile. Oh, the thoughts that went through my mind. Given that, I would like to share a post I received with you.

The Importance of Friends and Family in Life: "I've learned that it is not important **what** I have in my life. But, **who** I have in my life that counts."

I feel I wouldn't have achieved whatever I have, or been at this stage in my life without the contribution of each and every individual who has entered my life and left an indelible stamp on it. I'm blessed with wonderful people who I'm privileged to call family and friends, and I would like to say 'THANK YOU' to them. Grateful, Thankful, Blessed!

### Communion and Reconciliation

We continue to pray for the day when we again join together at the Table of the Lord to receive Holy Communion. The Diocese has given us clear guidelines of how to comply with the letter and spirit of the restrictions we are all under. Until the restrictions are lifted we are allowed to administer Anointing of the Sick and Communion only in emergency circumstances.

Reconciliation is available by appointment and with clear guidelines for safety. Please call Fr. Matt or Fr. Bill at the office (816-444-5406) and leave a message or you may leave a message at St. Peter's (816-363-2320)

The Lord is close at hand, and that He desires Communion with us. We look forward with hope and joy to the day when we will celebrate His great gift again fully! God bless! **Fr. Rotert**

### Eat more fruits & veggies



We often hear that we need to include more fruits and vegetables in our diet. There are also many health benefits of eating more fruits and vegetables. Here are 7 categories of fruits and vegetables that offer health benefits dubbed as 7 Super-foods. A good goal is to eat something from each group every day.

- ♥ Berries are helpful for bone health are high in antioxidants and boost immunity
- ♥ Red, yellow, and orange produce like carrots, cantaloupe, squash, sweet potatoes and tomatoes have antioxidants and carotenoids
- ♥ Citrus which are packed with Vitamin C and act as anti-inflammatories also increase blood flow and improve blood sugar levels
- ♥ Grapes and tree fruits give you a nice variety of colors but also apples, pears, and plums help decrease inflammation and are a good sources of fiber
- ♥ Starches are OK such as squash legumes, white potatoes and corn. Be careful of portion sizes because they are high in carbohydrates but rich in fiber, vitamin C, and potassium.
- ♥ Flavorful roots like garlic, leeks, scallions and onions contain alums which have been linked to overall heart health.
- ♥ Cruciferous vegetables like broccoli, Brussels sprouts, cauliflower, cabbage, collard greens, and kale contain vitamins and are also rich in fiber.

### Act of Spiritual Communion

**"My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Blessed Sacrament.**

**I love You above all things and I desire You with all my heart.**

**Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, I ask You to come spiritually into my heart.**

**I embrace You as if You were already in my heart and unite myself to You completely.**

**Please do not let me ever be separated from You." Amen.**

**"Lord, I am not worthy that You should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed. "**

*(During this time when we are not able to receive the Holy Eucharist, this prayer can be said while watching the video Mass as the priest receives the Body and Blood of Christ.)*



# Senior Center News

The Senior Center is closed during the Corona virus pandemic, but some of the work/ministry is alive and well and missing those who normally attend.

We are preparing daily lunch for some of the Seniors who normally come to the Center. It is gratifying to be able to give them extra help. If you or someone you know would welcome a lunch delivery, please contact Sharon Sanders.

[ssanders@stlfdc.org](mailto:ssanders@stlfdc.org) or call 816.591.6284.



**Face Masks from the Senior Center Ministry**

*May your mind rest on all things good;  
trust fully on the love of God. It is a blessing to be of service.*

If you must step out of the safety of the 'stay home' mandate, make sure you wear a mask. It is possible to have a mild case of the Covid-19 and not be aware of it. It is suggested that wearing a mask protects those you are in contact with when out and about. If you do not have a mask and want one, feel free to stop by the Senior Center and pick one up. Aside from cooking lunch for a few senior members and delivering them, Rosalind and Sharon continue to make a variety of masks for anyone in need of one. (Donations welcomed) If you take a mask, please hand wash it before wearing it and each time you wear it. Thank you for your continued support.



## Parish Staff

Fr. Matt Rotert, Pastor	mrotert@stlfdc.org
Fr. Bill Fox, Associate Pastor	bfox@stlfdc.org
Sr. Helen Alder, Parish Nurse	816.942.2746
B.J. Atkinson, Director, Emergency Assistance	bjatkinson@stlfdc.org
Warren Blevins, Business Manager	busmgr@stlfdc.org
Tami Chestnut, Director, Gospel Choir	816.812.1826
	tchestnut@stlfdc.org
Sharon Sanders, Director, Senior Center	816.444.3514
	ssanders@stlfdc.org
Estelle Tunley, Director, Liturgy & Music	etunley@stlfdc.org
Sharon Sanders, Safe Environment Coordinator	ssanders@stlfdc.org
Diocesan Ombudsman:	816.812.2500
Kathleen Chastain, Victims' Advocate	816.392.0011
	chastain@diocesekcsj.org

### Pastoral Council

Diana Burdett (Chair)	816.523.0137	tv9gal@gmail.com
Terry Chapman	816.507.9958	touchdown0310@yahoo.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
Sharon Hardy (Chair)	816.898.9251	jhardy004@centurytel.net
Bill Poppie	913.209.3411	bpoppie1947@gmail.com
Carmen Denvir	816.872.2517	cdenvir514@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 or Fr. Bill.

We are a member parish of Holy Rosary Credit Union - 816.221.2734

**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](mailto: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](mailto:chastain@diocesekcsj.org)

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