

# St. Teresa of Avila Church Est. 1869

DECEMBER 5, 2021 - SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

**PASTOR**

Rev. Arthur E. Mattulke  
Email: [pastorsttakron@gmail.com](mailto:pastorsttakron@gmail.com)

**DEACON**

Ron Adamczak

**RECTORY**

5771 Buell Street  
P.O. Box 168  
Akron, NY 14001  
(716) 542-9103

Office Hours: Tuesday, Thursday,  
& Friday  
8:30 AM–12:30 PM

E-mail: [stteresasofakron@verizon.net](mailto:stteresasofakron@verizon.net)

Website: [stteresasofakron.com](http://stteresasofakron.com)

**PARISH SECRETARY**

Jean Bacon

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION DIRECTOR**

Sr. M. Ruth Warejko, CSSF

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION OFFICE**

5775 Buell Street  
(716) 542-9103 Ext. 2

Website: [streledakron.wordpress.com](http://streledakron.wordpress.com)

**CONVENT**

5773 Buell Street  
(716) 542-9717

**BUSINESS/CEMETERY MANAGER**

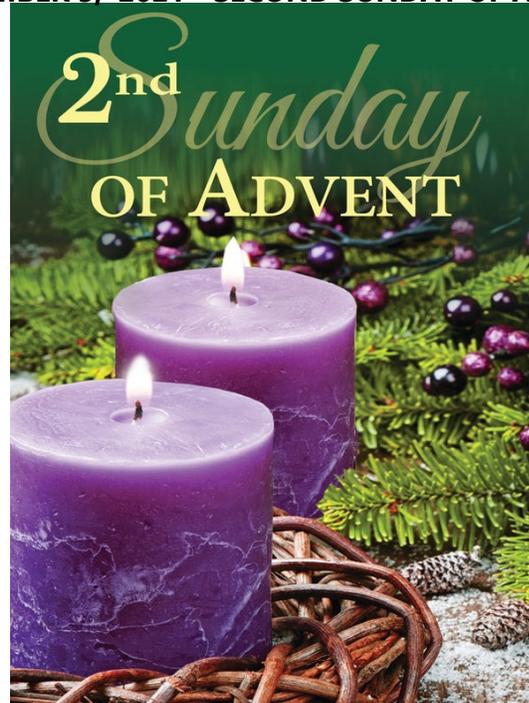
Melissa Sanford

**PARISH TRUSTEES**

Dick Campbell      Wally Smith

**MISSION STATEMENT**

We, the Catholic faith community of St. Teresa of Avila parish, guided by the Holy Spirit, commit ourselves to proclaim and follow the Good News of Jesus Christ. Basing our lives on faith, hope and love, we seek to meet our needs and the spiritual and corporal needs of those around us. It is our humble prayer that our lives will be visible signs of His presence in the world as we celebrate Christ in His Word and Sacraments.



**MASS SCHEDULE**

<i>Sunday Liturgies</i> .....	8:00 AM, 10:15 AM
<i>Saturday Vigil</i> .....	4:30 PM
<i>Daily Mass</i> .....	8:00 AM, except Wednesday 5:30 PM
<i>Saturday</i> .....	9:00 AM
<i>Vigil of Holy Days</i> .....	5:30 PM
<i>Holy Days</i> .....	8:00 AM, 7:30 PM

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION**

Saturdays 3:30 to 4:00 PM  
First Saturday 8:15 to 8:45 AM  
Vigil of Holy Days 3:30 to 4:15 PM  
*or anytime by request.*

**SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM**

As preparation for Baptism, parents are asked to contact the parish office to make an appointment with the Pastor.

**SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE**

Arrangements to be made at the Rectory 6 months in advance.

**NEW PARISHIONERS**

Please register at the Rectory as soon as you move within the parish.  
Note: If you are moving out of the parish, please notify the Rectory.

**LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION**

These letters needed for Baptismal and Confirmation sponsors are issued gladly to those who: have been registered for 6 months; attend Mass regularly; have been confirmed; if married, have done so in conformity with the Church laws, and whose children attend Religious Education.



## MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

**Mon., December 6 - St. Nicholas**  
8:00 In Memory of Richard Izzo Sr.  
by Fr. Art Mattulke

**Tues., December 7 - St. Ambrose**  
8:00 Dearly Departed Souls  
5:30 Intentions for Mothers

**Wed., December 8 - Immaculate  
Conception**  
8:00 In Memory of Richard &  
Marion Blake  
by Fr. Art Mattulke

7:30 Intentions for Mothers

**Thurs., December 9 - St. Juan Diego**  
8:00 Intentions for Fathers

**Fri., December 10**  
8:00 Irene Swift  
by Bernadette Connelly

**Sat., December 11 - St. Damasus**  
9:00 For the People of the Parish  
4:30 Betty Bergman - Birthday  
Blessings by Bergman Family

**Sun., December 12**  
8:00 Patricia Lederhouse by  
Bernadette & Stephen Connolly  
10:15 In Memory of Gertrude &  
Andrew Korszykowski by  
Estate of Gertrude Bartels



## Scripture Readings For the Week

**Monday** - Isaiah 35:1-10  
Luke 5:17-26

**Tuesday** - Isaiah 40:1-11  
Matthew 18:12-14

**Wednesday** - Genesis 3:9-15,20  
Ephesians 1:3-6, 11-12  
Luke 1:26-38

**Thursday** - Isaiah 41:13-20  
Matthew 11:11-15

**Friday** - Isaiah 48:17-19  
Matthew 11:16-19

**Saturday** - Sirach 48:1-4,9-11  
Matthew 17:9a,10-13

**Sunday** - Zephaniah 3:14-18a  
Philippians 4:4-7  
Luke 3:10-18



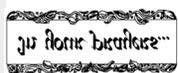
December 5, 2021  
2nd Sunday of Advent

St. Ambrose shares some wisdom on our need to prepare the way and open the door for Christ. "You see that when the Word of God knocks hardest on your door, it is when his hair is wet with the dew of the night. In fact, he chooses to visit those who are in tribulation and trial, lest one of them be overwhelmed by distress. So, his head is covered with dew, with drops, when his body is laboring hard. It is important to keep watch so that when the Bridegroom comes, he is not shut out. If you are asleep and your heart is not keeping watch, he will go away without knocking; but if your heart is alert for his coming, he knocks and asks for the door to be opened to him." When life gets overwhelming and difficult and we find ourselves feeling a bit downhearted and miserable, these words can bring great comfort.

We sometimes choose to remain stuck in our uncomfortable darkness and being stuck becomes our norm. In this time of self-focus our hearts are closed to the graces and life God desires to give us. Wrapped in the robe of mourning and misery, we fail to see the mercy, justice, and love the Bridegroom wants to bring. If we take seriously the need to prepare the way for Christ and open our hearts in preparation for his visit, we can hear God's gentle voice calling us deep within. It beckons us to seek out its source and discover the inner calm and peace that can prevail over the darkness of despair. Sometimes our darkness is so dark that it may seem unsurmountable. Trusting in the spiritual friends who journey with us, and God's promise may bring a glimmer of light even when it is most difficult to keep our hearts' doors open. Sometimes, the only light in the darkness is found in trusting the faith of others both past and present.

We have to trust that God has already begun the accomplishment of good work in us and that humanity is on an incredible journey to something wonderful and awesome. God is not done. When we open the doors of our hearts, straighten the paths of our lives, and prepare the way, Jesus can come with God's simple gifts of peace, grace, and joy. Life throws a great deal at us. It is easy to get tired and confused. We have to train our hearts to keep watch, discern what is of value, and forge ahead. Not allowing ourselves to become so weighed down by things and brought out of focus is a tremendous goal to achieve this Advent season. God is knocking. Answer the door. You will see and understand life in ways you never thought possible before

©LPi



For all religious sisters, brothers and priests, especially the elderly, who have offered their lives in service to others; we pray to the Lord.

Please pray for the sick of the parish and their family members, especially Bob Tiedt, Jean Ottney, Nancy O'Donnell, Kathleen Karaskiewicz, Shirley Lantz, Donna Stock, Martha Cunningham, Sophia Benintende, Sheila & John Ernst, Rita Whalen and Lorraine Sylvester.

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Sister Bea Leising.

## SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT - DECEMBER 5, 2021

**Religious Education:** Need some fresh ideas and reflections for this new Advent season? Please visit our Religious Ed website at [stredakron.wordpress.com](http://stredakron.wordpress.com). Classes for the children continue for today, December 12th and 19th. Covid regulations remain in place at all times. Thank you for your cooperation.

**The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary** - Holy Day of Obligation: Vigil on Tuesday, December 7th at 5:30 pm and Holy Day Masses Wednesday, December 8th at 8 am and 7:30 pm.

### Parish Townhall Meeting

We will be having a 1-hour parish Townhall meeting on Sunday, December 12, following the 10:15 Mass in the Church.

We will be presenting:

1. The finalized plans for the handicapped accessible bathroom, the new narthex/gathering space, and the new sign for our parish.
2. Our end of the year financial report with an opportunity to ask questions for clarification.
3. The Road to Renewal process with an opportunity for questions and answers.

We look forward to seeing you!

**St. Teresa's Youth Ministry** meets Sunday, December 5th, in the Parish Hall from 6 to 8 pm. All 8th to 12th grade students invited. Next meeting December 12th.

**Sacrament of Reconciliation** will be held on Wednesday, December 15th, following the Mass at 5:30 pm.



### BLESSING OF OUTDOOR NATIVITY SET & TREE LIGHTING

Saturday, December 11 following the 4:30 Mass

Presented by the St. Teresa's Youth Group

**Fully Alive Eucharistic Adoration** - Friday, December 11, the Blessed Sacrament will be exposed from 7:30 - 9:00 p.m. Come for as long or short a visit as you wish during this peaceful time of Adoration. Closing Benediction takes place at 9 p.m. This event is held on the second Friday of each month.

**Retirement Fund for Religious** - A donor to the Retirement Fund for Religious writes, "I still remember the lessons the sisters gave us and how they instilled in us the love of our faith." Show your thanks for the prayerful service of elderly Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests. Your gift to next week's second collection helps provide care, medicine and more. Thank you for your generosity.



CONGRATULATIONS TO  
ST. TERESA'S  
CONFIRMATION CLASS 2021  
November 21, 2021



One morning, a grandmother was surprised to find that her 7-year old grandson had made her coffee. Smiling, she choked down the worst cup of her life. When she finished, she found three little green army men at the bottom. Puzzled, she asked, "Honey, what are these army men doing in my coffee?" Her grandson answered, "Like it says on TV, Grandma. 'The best part of waking up is soldiers in your cup.'"



- **Saturday, December 4** - Altar Server Training immediately following the 4:30 Mass
- **Sunday, December 5** - Religious Education Classes 9:00 am - 10:00 am and 11:15 am - 12:30 pm
- **Sunday, December 5** - Youth Group Meeting in the Parish Hall 6 - 8 pm
- **Wednesday, December 8** - Immaculate Conception Masses 8 am and 7:30 pm
- **Friday, December 10** - Fully Alive Adoration, 7:30 in the Church
- **Saturday, December 11** - Pro-Life Prayer Group, 9:30 am, in the parking lot near the St. Teresa Statue
- **Saturday, December 11th** - Nativity blessing and Tree Lighting Ceremony after the 4:30 Mass
- **Sunday, December 12** - Religious Education Classes 9:00 am - 10:00 am and 11:15 am - 12:30 pm

### A VOCATION VIEW

St. Paul wrote, "the one who began a good work in you will continue to complete it," and these same words are spoken to new priests at their ordination. Have no fear -- God will complete what He has begun in you. If you're ready for a new beginning in ministry, contact Fr. Dave Baker at 716-847-5535 or visit [buffalovocations.org](http://buffalovocations.org).



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS  
THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK:

*"O God of glory, You have sent Your only Son into our midst to bear us in joy into Your presence. Waken those whose faith slumbers; stir up those whose love has waned into indifference; rouse to fullness of life those who have abandoned their journey toward You amid the hardships they have met along the way. Through Christ our Lord. Amen" From the morning prayer of December 5th; The Magnificat*