

St. Teresa of Avila Church Est. 1869

DECEMBER 19, 2021 - FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

PASTOR

Rev. Arthur E. Mattulke
Email: 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
Website: 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: stredakron.wordpress.com

CONVENT

5773 Buell Street
(716) 542-9717

BUSINESS/CEMETERY MANAGER

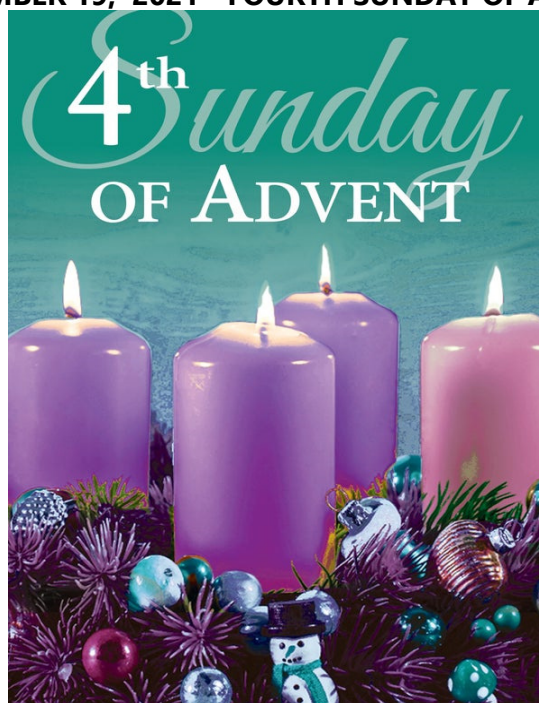
Melissa Sanford

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 20

8:00 Intentions for Mothers

Tues., December 21 - St. Peter

8:00 Intentions for Fathers

Wed., December 22

5:30 Alfred Strollo
by Family

Thurs., December 23 - St. John Kanty

8:00 Special Intention
by Flumerfeldt Family

Fri., December 24

8:00 Jamie Rydzik - Birthday
Blessings by Mary Olsen

4:30 Henry, Adeline & Michael
Raykowski by Rich Raykowski

8:00 John & Helen Capan
by Daughter

Sat., December 25 - Nativity of the
Lord

9:00 For the People of the Parish

11:00 Benker Family
by Estate

Sun., December 26 - Holy Family

8:00 Kenneth & Leola Campbell
by Dick & Betty Campbell

10:15 Connie Caprio
by Husband & Children



Scripture Readings For the Week

Monday - Isaiah 7:10-14
Luke 1:26-38

Tuesday - Song of Songs 2:8-14
Luke 1:39-45

Wednesday - 1 Samuel 1:24-28
Luke 1:46-56

Thursday - Malachi 3:1-4, 23-24
Luke 1:57-66

Friday - 2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16
Luke 1:67-79

Saturday - Isaiah 52:7-10
Hebrews 1:1-6
John 1:1-18

Sunday - 1 Samuel 1:20-22, 24-28
1 John 3:1-2, 21-24
Luke 2:41-52



I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a New Year filled with faith, love, laughs and health!

It has been a true blessing for Rasmus, Dylan, and me to have been welcomed into your wonderful family of St. Teresa's. I am continually amazed at the deep faith and generosity of everyone here. I want to take a moment to thank you all for everything you do to make our parish such a blessing to our community and a welcoming place to meet our Lord.

I will continue to keep you all in my thoughts and prayers as I celebrate Masses this Christmas and throughout this Holy Season.

Peace always,

Fr. Art



For the whole world and especially for our own country, that this Christmas we may see more clearly that peace comes not through violence, bitterness and hatred but through love, forgiveness and reconciliation; 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, Sheila & John Ernst, Rita Whalen and Lorraine Sylvester.



MASS INTENTIONS

The 2022 Mass Book is available to schedule Masses for next year.



Christmas Mass Schedule

*Christmas Eve Masses, Thursday,
December 24, 4:30 & 8 pm*

*Christmas Day Masses, Friday,
December 25,* 9 & 11 am*

The Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

*Friday, December 31, 4:30 pm (this Mass is for our deceased
family and friends in 2021)*

Saturday, January 1, St. Teresa's - 8 am and

Renewal Family Mass co-celebrated at Our Lady of Peace,

10950 Main Rd., Clarence -10 am

**There is no 4:30 Mass on December 25th*



- **Sunday, December 19** - Religious Education Classes 9:00 am - 10:00 am and 11:15 am - 12:30 pm
- **Sunday, December 19** - Youth Group Christmas Party in the Parish Hall 6 - 8 pm
- **Sunday, December 26** - No Classes - Merry Christmas! Classes Resume January 9, 2022
- **Sunday, December 26** - No Youth Group Meeting - Merry Christmas! Next meeting January 9, 2022

A VOCATION VIEW

"Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken to you by the Lord would be fulfilled." And blessed are you who hear Jesus call to ministry and respond! If you hear this summons, contact Fr. Dave Baker at 716-847-5535 or visit buffalovocations.org.



Religious Education: When we teach traditional Catholic prayers, we reinforce our common Catholic identity. We are one people in prayer. Explain the prayers by using the gestures that accompany them (ex. kneeling, the Sign of the Cross) and images found in the church (statues, special windows, paintings) to help the children deepen their understanding of the faith. Also, when teaching the Lord's Prayer, talk about when it is prayed during Mass.

St. Teresa's Youth Ministry Christmas Party, Sunday, December 19th, in the Parish Hall from 6 to 8 pm. Please bring a white elephant gift for exchange.

Retirement Fund for Religious - A sister writes, "Our prayers belong most of all to the generous benefactors whose donations have made this financial assistance possible." Thank you for supporting last week's Retirement Fund for Religious collection. Visit retiredreligious.org to learn how your gift supports elderly sisters, brothers, and religious order priests.

Don't Forget the Oplatki. At the Christmas Eve meal, each person has an Oplatki wafer. A parent offers a piece of wafer to another exchanging words of bless, of love, perhaps telling what they admire or respect about the other. The ritual continues as each person eats the piece of wafer they have been given and offers their own wafer to others. The wafers are on the altar rail and a donation is suggested.

Polish Christmas Traditions - Fr. Czesław Krysa, traditions expert, explains Polish Christmas customs, Saturdays at 11 a.m. live online at WebrRadio.com and 1440 AM. Past episodes can be heard at PolishProgram.com.

The Rectory Office will be closed on December 24th and December 31st in observance of the Christmas and New Year Holidays.

St. Teresa Women's Guild collected \$1,732 for the Thanksgiving baskets, thanks to your generosity. They provided a full holiday meal for 12 families and all money left will be given to the food pantry. Thank you again for your amazing support!



A young seminary student went home for Christmas break. A horrible snowstorm stranded the regular minister in another town. The leaders of the congregation asked the young man to substitute for the regular minister. The young preacher started his sermon by explaining the meaning of a substitute. "If you break a window," he said, "and then place a piece of plywood over the hole -- that's a substitute." After the sermon, a well-intentioned woman wished to compliment the young man. As she enthusiastically shook his hand, she said: "You were no substitute. You were a real pane!"



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK:

"Let us prepare to celebrate in wonder the memory of the King of kings and Lord of lords, who came not in glory but in the flesh of a child, and who ruled not from a throne of gold but from a cross of wood to free those condemned to die."

*From the evening prayers in
The Magnificat*