

# St. Teresa of Avila Church Est. 1869



## PASTOR

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## DEACON

Ron Adamczak

## RECTORY

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& Friday  
8:30 AM–12:30 PM

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

## PARISH SECRETARY

Jean Bacon

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION DIRECTOR

Sr. M. Ruth Warejko, CSSF

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION OFFICE

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(716) 542-9103 Ext. 2  
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## CONVENT

5773 Buell Street  
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## BUSINESS/CEMETERY MANAGER

Melissa Sanford

## PARISH TRUSTEES

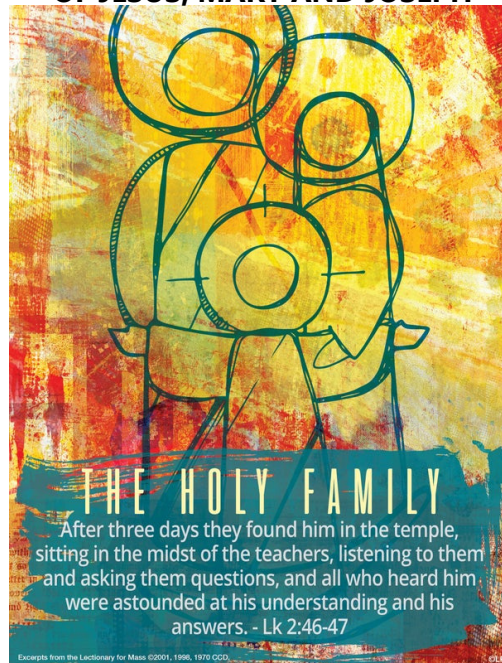
Dick Campbell      Wally Smith

## 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.



## DECEMBER 26, 2021 - THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH



## 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 27

8:00 John Darweesh - Birthday  
Blessings by Mary Olsen

Tues., December 28

8:00 Intentions for Mothers

Wed., December 29

5:30 Dearly Departed Souls

Thurs., December 30

8:00 In Memory of Guy Paul Hawes  
by Gram

Fri., December 31

8:00 Frederick Wysocki  
by Joan Wysocki

4:30 Deceased Members & Family  
Of 2021

Sat., January 1 - Solemnity of Mary

8:00 Intentions for Fathers

10:00 For the People of the Parish

4:30 Ronald Adamczak Sr.  
by the Bacon Family

Sun., January 2 - Epiphany

8:00 Mary Mecca  
by Jim & Mary Ann Schneider

10:15 Mary Patricia Paxon  
by bill Paxon & Susan Molinari



## Scripture Readings For the Week

Monday - 1 John 1:1-4  
John 20:1a & 2-8

Tuesday - 1 John 1:5-2:2  
Matthew 2:13-18

Wednesday - 1 John 2:3-11  
Luke 2:22-35

Thursday - 1 John 2:12-17  
Luke 2:36-40

Friday - 1 John 2:18-21  
John 1:1-18

Saturday - Numbers 6:22-27  
Galatians 4:4-7  
Luke 2:16-21

Sunday - Isaiah 60:1-6  
Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6  
Matthew 2:1-12



December 26, 2021

## The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

Families can be very difficult things to negotiate. This is true not only of our families of origin, the current family of which we are a part, the family of our Church, our society, and our global family as well. Everything human can be found in family stories. Those stories speak of wonderful life-giving successes as well as painful spirit-robbing abuses. Our greatest joys and our greatest wounds are usually connected with the experience of family. Our needs, experiences, and unresolved baggage often color what we bring to our familiar relationships. They contribute to our level of defensiveness, how guarded and protected we become, and what prejudices we believe.

In order to break the cycle of dysfunction we have to remember that it is not only by human effort that we negotiate the difficult and challenging events of our lives. There is a Divine Effort at work as well. For sure, the human effort can create quite a mess and easily destroy lives. This is true of any family with which we are associated. Today's Feast of the Holy Family serves to help us understand that there is a Divine Story being told as well. It is a story of perseverance in the face of hardship, determination in the face of despair, healing when we see nothing but wounds, and light where there is darkness.

Do we believe that God is always working, guiding, restoring, and leading? Unless we do, we will never be free from the imperfections and wounds that bind us and never be able to understand what it really means to forgive. Pope Francis tells us that the "light which comes from the Holy Family encourages us to offer human warmth to other families." While this is most certainly true, we can only really begin to do this when we realize that we are still works in progress, not anchored to the wounds and sins of our past, and still a leading star in God's continually unfolding story of love. The Holy Family persevered and radiated warmth because they knew they were not alone. We can too.

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For families facing the pressures of separation, sickness, finances, unemployment and other hardships that they may support each other, and remain united as one in mutual love, faithfulness, encouragement and understanding; 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 Cummingham, Rita Whalen and Lorraine Sylvester.

Please also pray for the sacredness of all human life from conception until natural death.



## MASS INTENTIONS

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

*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*

The Friday, December 31st Vigil Mass will be offered for parishioners and their family members who were called to the Lord in 2021. May perpetual light shine upon them....

Doug Schifferle  
Rev. Antonio Rodriguez  
Ronald Marble  
Rev. Stewart Lindsay  
Dr. Dennis DePerro  
Rev. Walter Werbicki  
Msgr. Michael DelVecchio  
Mary Wukman  
Rev. Gary R. Kibler

Dick Komroy  
Joe Cunningham  
Ronald Kintzel  
Arlene Scheeda  
Nicholas Backes  
George Cunningham  
Patricia Hildebrand  
Theresa Pogorzala

Phil Wittman  
Brett Zoerb  
Fred Wysocki  
Frances Bordonaro  
David Ross  
James Calhan  
Mary Mecca  
Evelyn L. Olszewski

**Religious Education:** The Sunday between Christmas and New Year's is the feast of (a) Pentecost (b) the Holy Family (c) Holy Thursday. Yes, today we celebrate the life of the Holy Family and think about those hidden years of Jesus' life, when he was growing up in Nazareth. On Epiphany we celebrate (a) Moses and God's people passing through the Red Sea (b) the three Kings seeing Jesus. The answer is "the three Kings". We remember the gifts the Kings brought to Jesus- gold, frankincense, and myrrh. Remember to visit our website [stredakron.wordpress.com](http://stredakron.wordpress.com)

**The Bible in a Year with Fr. Mike Schmitz** is available at [ascensionpress.com](http://ascensionpress.com). Start the 2022 New Year with The Bible in a Year podcast! Get the reading plan emailed to you and start January 1st with us!

The **Augustine Institute** is proud to introduce **Amen**, which is the free Catholic app that brings you beautiful prayers, faithful meditations, and nourishing Scripture to draw your mind, body, and soul to rest in God. Catholic wisdom from the ages is provided for all ages. Catholic prayers, meditations, devotions, and Scripture calm restless hearts and distracted minds. Go to [AMENAPP.ORG](http://AMENAPP.ORG) available through Apple App Store or Google Play.

The Rectory Office will be closed on December 31st in observance of the New Year Holiday.

**Daily Christmas Reflection with Dr. Tim Gray.** Grow closer to our Lord in the Manger during the Christmas season with Dr. Gray as he leads viewers through Mass readings every day. Sign up for free at [DAILY.FORMED.ORG](http://DAILY.FORMED.ORG). Formed is offered free to our entire parish, just go to the St. Teresa's website at [stteresasofakron.com](http://stteresasofakron.com) and look under the faith formation tab for Formed.

**Ministers For January** - Extraordinary Ministers of Communion: 4:30 pm - Amy Bergman; 8 am - Susan Brown; 10:15 am - Sr. Gerard. Lectors: 4:30 pm - Sr. Ruth; 8 am - Ann Sayers; 10:15 am - karen Stachowiak. Altar Servers: 4:30 pm - Mary Grace Bergman, Nevada Bergman; 8 am - Isabella Mruk, Emily Mruk, Gabrielle Flumerfeldt; 10:15 am - Aron Gehl, Nathaniel Gehl, Emma Fink.



- **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
- **Saturday, January 1, 2022** - Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God Renewal Family Mass at Our Lady of Peace, 10 am

**A VOCATION VIEW**

Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, all had to make sacrifices to accomplish the Will of God. Let's all be open to the idea that our children or grandchildren may be called to serve the Church as a priest or religious sister. Let us not stand in the way of those whom God has called. For help in discerning God's will, contact Fr. Dave Baker at 716-847-5535 or visit [buffalovocations.org](http://buffalovocations.org).



As a little girl climbed onto Santa's lap, he asked her the usual question, "And what would you like for Christmas?" The child stared at him open mouthed and horrified for a minute, then gasped, "Didn't you get my text?"



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS  
THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK:

*"Children, obey your parents (in the Lord), for this is right. 'Honor your father and mother.' This is the first commandment with a promise, 'that it may go well with you and that you may have a long life on earth.' Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up with the training and instruction of the Lord."*

*From the letter to the Ephesians 6:1-4*