

Saint Teresa of Avila Catholic Church

VOLUME 6 ISSUE 3

JULY 2013



*Lay up carefully
what our Lord
may say to thee,
and act upon the
desires He may
have filled thee
with in prayer.*

St. Teresa of Avila (1515-82)

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A Letter from Our Pastor

Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI, encouraged us during this Year of Faith to seek opportunities to deepen our faith and renew our baptismal call to holiness. A pilgrimage to a sacred place, especially one we might not have visited before, can be an ideal occasion for this. A pilgrimage is a transformative journey to a sacred place reminding us that we are pilgrims on a journey that begins and ends with God. Pilgrimages are an opportunity for contemplation of one's life and for transformation. Our travel is the outward part; our drawing closer to God is the inward part.

The first Christian pilgrimages were taken to retrace the footsteps of Jesus during his Passion and Death. Later, pilgrimages were taken to sacred places such as St. Peter's Basilica in Rome, to places where Saints are buried such as St. James in the Santiago de Compostela, Spain and places of Marian apparitions, such as Our Lady of Lourdes, France and Our Lady of Guadalupe, Mexico. Today, pilgrimages are taken for many reasons: to strengthen ourselves in the Christian way of life in faith, hope and love, to pray for particular intentions and healing, to

seek answers to prayer or to satisfy a spiritual longing, to honor a promise to the Lord – or simply to visit a beautiful, prayerful place to be inspired and encouraged in faith.

A pilgrimage can also be defined as the course of our life here on earth. The physical pilgrimage we take is a symbol of the spiritual pilgrimage we are on throughout our lives. Each day we have the opportunity to encounter Christ through every aspect of our human experience – its suffering, joys, and interactions with others. By taking what we have learned from our pilgrimage we can put it into practice in our daily lives and come to a better knowledge of God.

During this Year of Faith, from the weekend of May 18/19 until the weekend of September 7/8, Bishop Lennon has designated 5 sites in our Diocese as pilgrimage destinations. These 5 churches will be open to visitors on Saturdays from 3 pm – 7 pm and Sundays from 7 am – 7 pm. All Catholics are urged to go to one of the first four churches listed below and obtain a Pilgrim Passport and receive a sticker from

that church and apply it to your passport. Throughout the summer, visit the next 3 churches (in any order) and obtain a sticker from each and place it on your Pilgrim Passport. Make your final church visit to the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist in Downtown Cleveland and obtain your last sticker and an official Year of Faith completion certificate.

Visit these churches first:

St. Mary in Painesville

St. Mary in Elyria

St. Mary in Wooster

St. Sebastian in Akron

Visit this church last in order to receive your completion certificate:

Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist in Downtown Cleveland

The Rev. Edward J. Smith

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Poppy Seed and Nut Roll Update

by Robert Schloss

During the Lenten Fish Fries many of the attendees asked if St. Teresa of Avila would be making nut and poppy seed rolls for Christmas. Hopefully the answer will be yes! Bob & Shirley Schloss have said they will organize



the "Holy Rollers" again provided there will be enough volunteers to help! This message is to get everyone thinking about volunteering.

Watch the church bulletins for sign up information and for the organizational meeting date which will be held in September.

A 'Window' into Our History

by Sue DiVaccaro/Jean Ackerman



Window on West side of Church, 3rd window section from the altar.

One of the great things about St. Teresa Parish and church is its history. Some of that history is written on our beautiful stained glass windows. The picture on the left is one of those windows. The German words mean "Young Ladies Sodality" - something not many of us have heard of today but was a popular and active group years ago.

According to the records left by the nuns who taught at St. Teresa School (records go back to 1931) part of the Eighth Grade Graduation Ceremony was the induction of the boys into the Holy Name Society and the girls into the Young Ladies Sodality. These groups were social, religious and service oriented.

St. Teresa Parishioner Jean Acker-

man was inducted into this sodality at her eighth grade graduation in 1948 from St. Teresa School. Jean remembers the group of girls would put on dances in the parish hall, collect school supplies for the less fortunate, and collect money for the missions. The young ladies would also attend Mass together once a month receiving Holy Communion as a group. Some of the girls were in the choir as well.

Jean continued to be part of this sodality through high school and college where she said spiritual exercises, daily prayer with the rosary, and continued outreach projects were practices expected of all the young ladies.

Records do not show when the sodality ceased to exist at St. Teresa Parish.

How We Support and Pray for our Parish, Family and Friends

Prayer Basket

The Prayer Basket in the rear of the church is there for anyone to write down a prayer request for whatever touches their heart. These intentions are included in our weekend Mass petitions. Our prayer warriors lift these intentions to the Lord on Wednesday during Eucharistic Adoration.

Get Well Cards

St. Teresa's Social Concerns Committee sends Get Well Cards to those parishioners who are under the weather. Please call our office if you know of someone in need of a little pick-me-up while recovering from an illness. It's always nice to know there are friends thinking of you when you feel ill!

Our Military Personnel

Parishioners who have friends or family members in the military are invited to contact our office and submit the name of their loved one. These names are listed weekly in our bulletin and on our website. They also are included in our weekend Mass intentions.

Mass Intentions

A traditional way for Catholics to remember their loved ones with prayer is to request that a Mass be said for them. Contact the church office by phone to schedule this. The community then prays for your loved one.

Holy Communion to the Homebound

St. Teresa's Eucharistic Ministers will bring the Body of Jesus to those who are homebound and unable to come to Mass. This includes those recovering from an illness or surgery and cannot leave the house. Contact the office to make arrangements.

St. Teresa's church office phone number is 440-934-4227. Our office email is st.teresa.office@neohio.twcbc.com. Our office hours are 9 a.m.—3 p.m. Monday—Friday. Please contact us regarding any of the above opportunities to support and pray for our community and family.

Saint Christopher

by Tom Parkey

Little is known about the life of this early saint who was martyred during the reign of the Roman emperor Decius in approximately 250 AD. Legend has it that he was a man of enormous size and strength who was converted to Christianity by a hermit, who took on the Christian service of helping others by carrying people across a dangerous river ford. Christopher was carrying a young child across the river when he discovered that by degrees the child was getting heavier and heavier to the point the powerful Christopher barely made it across with the child.

Once over, the child revealed himself to Christopher as his Lord and Savior, and directed him to plant his wood staff into the ground near the hut by the river where Christopher sheltered. The next day the staff had become a large fruit-bearing palm tree. The miracle of the staff caused many to convert to the faith, angering the local ruler, who had Christopher arrested and beheaded. Because of his Christian service on the river, St. Christopher has been venerated through the centuries as the patron saint of travelers.

Saint Christopher's feast day is July 25th.



**ST. TERESA OF AVILA
CATHOLIC CHURCH**

1878 Abbe Road
Sheffield Village, Ohio 44054

Phone: 440-934-4227
Fax: 440-934-4500
E-mail: st.teresa.office@neohio.twcbc.com

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We're on the Web!
www.stteresaparish.com

Up Coming Parish Events!

Religious Formation

PSR, Confirmation and RCIA will begin in September of 2013. Watch the Newsletter, weekly Bulletin and Website for information on registration and schedules.

Children's Masses and Coffee and Donuts

Will resume in the Fall of 2013

Food Pantry Donations

Donations taken 1st Weekend/month

July 6/7: Non Perishable Food

August 3/4 Non Perishable Food

September 7/8: Non Perishable Food

Eucharistic Adoration

Wednesdays from 8:30 a.m.—2:00 p.m.

Please consider spending one hour of the most blessed "quality time" you will ever have! Call the office if interested.

The Edge—Youth Ministry

See bulletin/website for updates

Volunteer at Food Pantry

3rd Saturday/month 9 am—1 pm

July 20, August 17 & September 21

Labor Day Mass

Monday, September 2—9 a.m.

Summer Gardeners

Our gardens need to be weeded and watered throughout the summer. Come and help when you can or call the office to "adopt a garden".

For monthly Parish Committee meeting dates, visit our website at www.stteresaparish.com or watch the bulletin for current dates/times.

Prayer for a Summer Day

Long warm days...
The pace of life slows...
A time for picnics and rest in the shade...

Lord,
help me to rest a while in the cooling shade of your presence.
Slow down my restless heart and fill me with gentle compassion for all your people. Amen.

