

Saint Teresa of Avila Catholic Church

VOLUME 6 ISSUE 4

OCTOBER 2013



More tears are shed over answered prayers than unanswered ones.

St. Teresa of Avila (1515-82)

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A Letter from Our Pastor

October is a wonderful and exciting month for all of us here at our parish, because October is the month in which we celebrate the feast day of our patroness St. Teresa of Avila. This year will once again be special because of all the events that have been planned surrounding this year's feast. As a Parish dedicated to her patronage, we are permitted to formally celebrate her feast on the weekend of October 19-20. (Her official Feast Day is October 15)

On Saturday, October 19th, St. Teresa will be hosting a **PARISH STEAK FRY**. Just like last year, this will be a fun and very exciting event. Tickets for the event are just \$20.00 each and will include steak, baked potato, vegetable, salad, roll, and dessert. In addition to the food, beer and wash are included with the purchase of a ticket. The Parish Life Center doors will open at 5:30 pm for the event, which will go until 11:00 PM. Along with the wonderful food, we will also enjoy music from DJ EZ, and plenty of side boards and raffles. Put on your dancing shoes, bring a big appetite, and join us for this great community event!

On Sunday, October 20th, we will be celebrating our **ST. TERESA FEAST DAY MASS**. I want to urge all of you to make the 11:00

AM Feast Day Mass a priority for that weekend. This is an opportunity for all of us to thank God properly for St. Teresa and her constant intercession on our behalf as a parish. As we are all very well aware by now, we are living in a time in our Diocese where many have lost their parishes, many of which were much larger than our own. We have truly been blessed to have been delivered from such heartache. The bottom line is we love our church and our parish family. We have a long and rich history worth celebrating. God has graced our parish, and for that we must rejoice. Therefore, I cannot urge you enough to be a part of all our festivities.

After the Feast Day Mass, at 12:30 PM, we will hold our **4th ANNUAL ST. TERESA FEAST DAY DINNER**. **Everyone is invited and encouraged to come and enjoy our free meal.** We ask that you consider bringing a side dish or a dessert. The centerpiece of the Feast Day Dinner will be our **4th ANNUAL FEAST DAY RAFFLE**. This is **extremely important** for our parish and so I urge all parishioners to support this raffle. First Place will win \$2,000.00, Second Place will win \$500.00 and Third Place will win \$100.00. Tickets are

just \$5.00 a piece or a book of 5 tickets is just \$20.00. Tickets have been mailed out to all parishioners to make selling them as convenient as possible. *Though not obligatory, I ask all of you to do your best to sell your tickets. As a small parish, finances are always tight. Therefore, I ask that you give your best effort to sell as many tickets as possible.* Please join with me as we work to make our Parish the best it can be. If you need additional tickets for sale or purchase, please contact the Parish Office.

Bishop Lennon has made it clear that he wants this Diocese to be made up of vibrant and healthy parishes. We have been blessed, since 1845, with a spirit and energy that has carried us through both good times and bad. Please circle your calendars for October 19-20 and be an active participant in our Feast Day Celebration. Let's come together and thank God for the blessing that is our parish family.

The Rev. Edward J. Smith

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The Ever Present Church Candle

by Jo Niemiec

As we participate in various Catholic Services or just stopping in to say some prayers, there are many items that make up our Blessed surroundings and one of them is the candle. There is the large Paschal candle, the main altar candles, the large votive candles in front of the Blessed Virgin, St. Joseph, St. Anthony and St. Ann statues and the small votive candles in the back of the church.

Dating back prior to the time of the apostles, the candle has been used to enhance the beauty of religious ceremonies, as well as creating an atmosphere of peace and tranquility.

There are many ways in which an individual may assign meaning to the candle. The Lord said "I am the Light of the World" and it is through His Light of Love that the darkness in this world can be eliminated. For many, lighting of the candle and prayer brings hope in eliminating darkness in their lives or in the lives of someone they are praying for.

Saints have a special relationship with God in Heaven and hold special places in the hearts of believers. A lit candle before a saint's statue represents the believer's request that the saint will intercede to God on their behalf.

From "The Original Catholic Encyclopedia", the great Paschal candle on the altar represents Christ "the true light" and the smaller candles represent the individual who strives to reproduce Christ in his or her life".

The suggested donation for the small votives is \$.50 each and can be placed into the attached moneybox. The donation for the larger votives by the Virgin Mary, St. Joseph, and other saint statues is \$3.00. Donation envelopes are available in the vestibule and can be placed in the collection basket and the staff will light the candle. The Altar and Rosary Society maintains the votives and uses the donations toward the purchase of all church candles.



My Prayer On Lighting A Candle

Lord, may this candle be a Light for you to enlighten me in my difficulties and decisions.

May it be a fire for you to burn out of me all pride, selfishness and impurity.

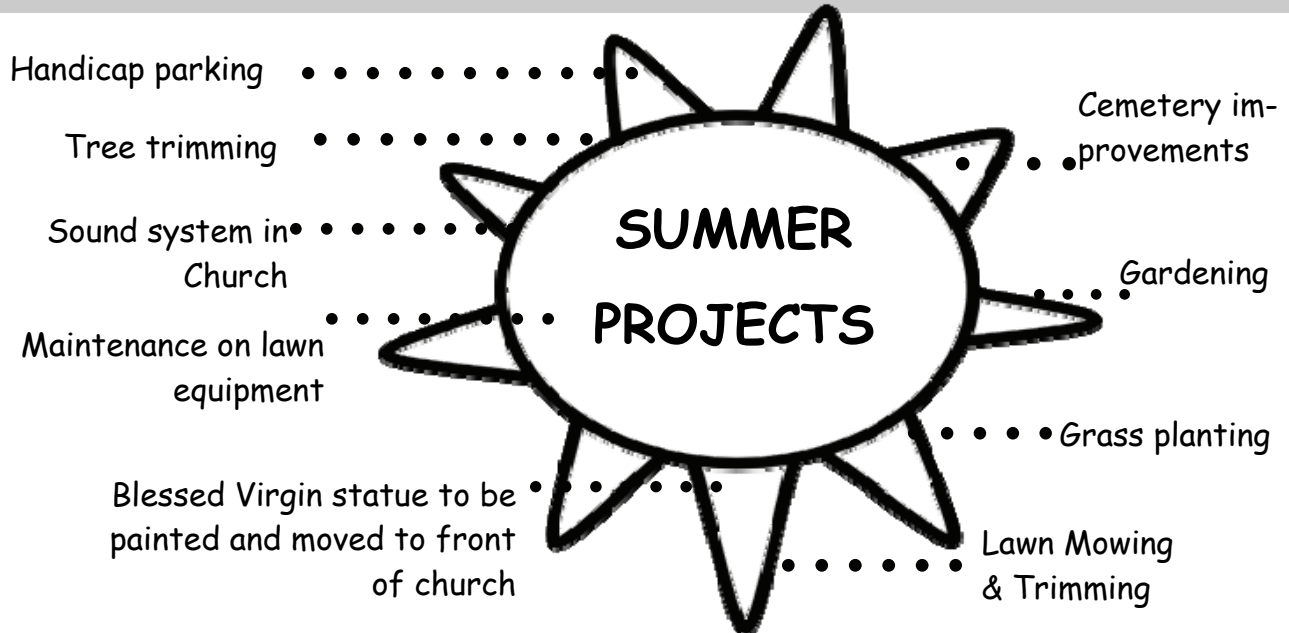
May it be a flame for you to bring warmth into my heart towards my family, my neighbors and all those who meet me.

Through the prayers of Mary, Virgin and Mother, I place in your care those I come to remember, especially _____.

Although I cannot stay long here with you in your Church I am leaving this candle; I wish to give you something of myself.

Help me to continue my prayers in everything I do this day.
Amen

Thank You to those who helped accomplish these projects: David Aring, John Smith, Nick Wehler, Jo & Ed Niemiec, John & Sue Hart, Griffith Paving, Denny Rieth, Deb Wehler, Sue DiVaccaro, Elmer & Sandy Klingshirn, Chris Sherry, Altar & Rosary Society, Rose Norton



Our Spiritual Adventure this Summer *by Carol Kirchner*

During this Year of Faith, we were encouraged to enter through the door of faith; to live our relationship with Jesus Christ in faith, hope and love on our journey to God who is the beginning and end of life's pilgrimage.

Don and myself, along with Lou and Jean Varos, decided to embark on one of the most pleasant adventures in faith we have ever experienced. One of the suggestions of Bishop Lennon was to visit a beautiful, prayerful place to be inspired and encouraged in faith. As we entered each church that was selected for our pilgrimage we were welcomed by friendly priests and exuberant parishioners. Everyone's joy of their spiritualism and involvement in spiritual life was very evident.

We attended Mass at St Mary Church, Our Lady of the Assumption, in Elyria, June 3rd. Father Diedrick was focusing on the Feast of Corpus Christi and emphasized our faithfulness in attending Mass on Sunday. Father's homily asked if we slide in late and leave early so as to fulfill our obligation and how do we respond to him in our prayers? We noticed no one left early that Sunday morning.

Our second destination was St. Mary Church in Painseville where the congregation is half Hispanic. This was a huge adjustment for the parish but amazingly through prayer they've adjusted. They have two Spanish Masses, one Saturday evening and another 12:30 Sunday. They feed the poor in their area twice a week which is a huge undertaking and everyone we talked to seemed so enthusiastic about their mission.

July 28th we heard Mass at Saint Sebastian in Akron. This was a magnificent church full of history, relics, pictures and friendly parishioners. We were given a list of suggested places to eat but the parishioners were always eager to share their favorite restaurant.

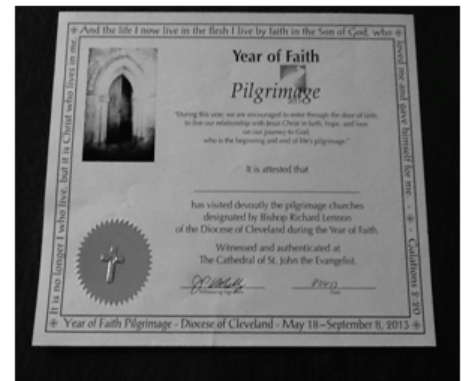
After exploring Amish Country Saturday, July 21st, we attended Mass at St Mary of the Immaculate Conception in Wooster which was established in 1846. Their Parochial Vicar, Father Augustine Dongseop Lee, from Korea, celebrated our Mass and was ordained just three years ago. This church contained some breathtaking statues of the saints and an inspirational altar.

We ended our journey at The Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist August 25th. We realized we needed to go to

confession to complete our Pilgrimage which we did at the Cathedral. To our delight Father Marszal, who was formerly from our area in the late 1960s and early 1970s, was the confessor; needless to say, we spent half of our confession reliving wonderful memories.

Every Church was unique in its priests, staff, congregation, spiritual eagerness to learn and give more back to God. Thank you Bishop Lennon for this wonderful experience. Our only regret is why we can't do this type of journey more often.

Certificate of Completion



Saint Josephine Bakhita

by Tom Parkey

Born in the Sudan province of the Ottoman Empire in 1869, St. Josephine Bakhita was taken captive by Arab slavers who invaded her village in the Darfur region at about the age of eight. For the next five or six years, she was sold and re-sold several times, with each successive master seemingly crueler than the last one. During this time, she was beaten almost daily and forcibly converted to Islam. One of her masters gave her the name "bakhita", which is Arabic for "lucky"- she is said to have forgotten her given name due to the trauma of her circumstances.

At about the age of 14, Bakhita was sold to the family of Callisto Legnani, the Italian consul in the Sudanese capital Khartoum. Her new masters treated her kindly and brought her back to Italy with

them. Senor Legnani later gave her to another Italian family that had been in Sudan with the Legnani, and who entrusted Bakhita with the care of their young daughter Mimmina. In 1888, while the family was preparing to move back to Sudan where they had a business, Bakhita and Mimmina were placed in the convent of the Canossian sisters in Venice. A few months later when the family came to retrieve the pair, Bakhita refused to leave. When they tried to insist, the superior of the catechumenate protested to the authorities, and Bakhita's bondage was ended.

Bakhita chose to remain with the Canossian sisters and was baptized in 1890, taking the name Josephine. Shortly after she joined the novitiate, and took her vows as a Canossian sister in 1896. In 1902, she was assigned to the order's convent in Schio in northern It-

aly. For the next 50 years until her death, Sr. Josephine served the convent and the community of Schio. Highly charismatic, her devoted kindness and sanctity earned her the affection of her fellow sisters and members of the community. By her later years she was regarded as a living saint, and during the dark years of World War II, the citizens of Schio felt protected by her presence.

Sister Josephine passed away in 1947. During the next three days thousands of people came to pay their respects. Over the following years, many were blessed through her intercession, and she was canonized St. Josephine Bakhita by Pope John Paul II in October, 2000. **The patron saint of Sudan, her feast day is February 8th.**

**ST. TERESA OF AVILA
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We're on the Web!
www.stteresaparish.com

Up Coming Parish Events!

Religious Formation

PSR: Tuesdays from 6—7:15 p.m.

RCIA: Sundays from 10:15—11:30 a.m.

Confirmation: takes place at St. Anthony Church. See bulletin & website for details.

Schedules are in the bulletin and on our Parish website.

Children's Masses

November 10 at 11:00 a.m.

December 24 at 4:30 p.m.

Coffee and Donuts

December 8, 2013 after Sunday Mass

Food Pantry Donations

Donations taken 1st Weekend/month

October 5/6: Non Perishable Food

November 16/17: Thanksgiving Food

December 7/8: Non Perishable Food

Eucharistic Adoration

Wednesdays from 8:30 a.m.—1:00 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 9:30 am—1 pm

October 19, November 16 & December 21

Parish Life Center is for Rent

For information visit our website or call our office at 440-934-4227.

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

Special Events

Feast Day Steak Fry
Sat, Oct. 19 @ 5:30 p.m.

Feast Day Dinner
Sun, Oct 20 @ 12:30 p.m.

Turkey Raffle: Fri, Nov 8 @ 6 p.m.

Parish Christmas Dinner:
Sat, Dec 14 @ 6 p.m.
(Sponsored by the Altar & Rosary)

Advent Prayer

Father, in the wilderness of the Jordan you sent a messenger to prepare people's hearts for the coming of your son. Help me to hear his words and repent of my sins, so that I may clearly see the way to walk, the truth to speak, and the life to live for Him, our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen