

Saint Teresa of Avila Roman Catholic Parish



DECEMBER 25, 2016 — SOLEMNITY OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

Contact Information

Address: 1000 Avila Court, Pittsburgh, PA 15237
Phone: 412.367.9001 / Fax: 412.366.8415
Website Address: www.avilaparish.org
School Office: Ext. 530 / Fax: 412.364.1172

Rectory Office Hours

Monday through Friday 8 AM - 12 PM & 1 PM - 4 PM
Saturday 8:30 AM - 7:30 PM; Sunday 8 AM - 2 PM

Sunday Mass Schedule

Saturday Anticipated Masses: 4:15 PM, 6 PM
Sunday Masses: 8 AM, 10 AM, 12 PM

Holy Day Mass Schedule

Please see the bulletin or call Ext. 561.

Sacrament of Baptism: Expectant parents must register in advance for the baptismal preparation class. Please call Ext. 519 to register.

Sacrament of Matrimony: Couples must meet with a priest prior to setting a wedding date. A six-month preparation period and pre-marriage course is required.

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Every Saturday at 11 AM, and again following the 4:15 PM Saturday evening Mass.

Eucharistic Adoration: Thursday before First Friday of the month. Exposition after 7 AM Mass. Benediction at 7 PM.

RCIA-Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults: Persons interested in becoming a Roman Catholic Christian should contact the RCIA Coordinator at Ext. 548.

Parish Staff

Rev. Robert J. Vular, Pastor.....Ext. 511, rvular@avilaparish.org
Rev. Christopher Mannerino, Parochial Vicar.....Ext. 513, cmannerino@avilaparish.org
Deacon David R. Witter, Permanent Deacon.....Ext. 500, dwitter@avilaparish.org
Deacon Jack Miller, Permanent Deacon.....Ext. 584, jmiller@avilaparish.org
Sr. Karen Brink, O.S.B., School Principal.....Ext. 531, kbrink@avilaparish.org
Sr. Irene Moeller, O.S.B., Social Services Minister / Pastoral Associate.....Ext. 540, imoeller@avilaparish.org
Ms. Sharon Balchus, Director of Religious Education / RCIA.....Ext. 548, sbalchus@avilaparish.org
Mr. Ted Rybka, Director of Liturgy and Music Ministries.....Ext. 514, trybka@avilaparish.org
Mrs. Susan Mohall-Szymanski, Director of Youth Ministry.....Ext. 547, sszymanski@avilaparish.org
Mr. Joseph T. Burkot, Business Manager.....Ext. 509, jburkot@avilaparish.org
Ms. Linda Ruffing, Administrative Assistant.....Ext. 519, lruffing@avilaparish.org
Mrs. Barbara Walkauskas, Parish Secretary.....Ext. 503, bwalkauskas@avilaparish.org

CELEBRATING 150 YEARS!

Our mission as the parish community of St. Teresa of Avila is to become the body of Christ on earth. Following the example of Saint Teresa, our patroness, we strive to be the eyes, hands, and feet of Christ for others, through our call to service. Nourished by the Eucharist, we continually seek to grow and become the true body of Christ in and through each other.

The Nativity of the Lord

Saturday Vigil-December 24, 2016

- 4:00 PM-The People of St. Teresa Parish
- 6:00 PM-Intentions of the Memorials
- 10:00 PM-Dec'd Priests & Sisters of the Parish

Sunday-December 25, 2016

- 9:00 AM-The People of St. Teresa Parish
- 11:00 PM-The People of St. Teresa Parish

Monday-December 26, 2016

- 7:00 AM-NO MASS
- 9:00 AM-Sp Int of Bob/Pat Benna-Bob/Pat Benna

Tuesday-December 27, 2016

- 7:00 AM-Doris M. Groll-Art Groll

Wednesday-December 28, 2016

- 7:00 AM-NO MASS
- 9:00 AM-Agnes Stropkay [ann]-Family

Thursday-December 29, 2016

- 7:00 AM-Jim Darr-Bob/Carol Raible

Friday-December 30, 2016

- 7:00 AM-NO MASS
- 9:00 AM-Grace Marson-Children

Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother Of God

Saturday Vigil-December 31, 2016

- 4:15 PM-Ray/Olga Winghart-Marilyn/Frank Klein
- 6:00 PM-NO MASS

Sunday-January 1, 2017

- 8:00 AM-Martha Schick-Dave McCrea Family
- 10:00 AM-The People of St. Teresa Parish
- 12:00 PM-Kenneth F. Miehl-Tony Rocco/Terry Gerst

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

- Monday: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Ps 31:3cd-4, 6, 8ab, 16bc, 17; Mt 10:17-22
- Tuesday: 1 Jn 1:1-4; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12; Jn 20:1a, 2-8
- Wednesday: 1 Jn 1:5 — 2:2; Ps 124:2-5, 7b-8; Mt 2:13-18
- Thursday: 1 Jn 2:3-11; Ps 96:1-3, 5b-6; Lk 2:36-40
- Friday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or Col 3:12-21 [12-17]; Ps 128:1-5; Mt 2:13-15, 19-23
- Saturday: 1 Jn 2:18-21; Ps 96:1-2, 11-13; Jn 1:1-18
- Sunday: Nm 6:22-27; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21

Readings can be found online at www.usccb.org

THE GIFT OF GOD'S WORD

On this day of gifts and gift-giving, it seems appropriate that we take a moment to reflect on the great gift of God's Word. Because it is creative, God's Word always points to its author, always calls us to respond. Because it is powerful, God's Word can link the sublime with the ridiculous, the transcendent with the immanent, the divine with the human. Because it is graceful, God's Word establishes a relationship of deep intimacy between us and God.

At the heart of God's Word lies a tantalizing tension between the mysterious and the mundane. In our liturgical celebration, this unresolved tension both reveals the meaning of life for us and calls us to respond, to act upon that meaning.

Once accepted and opened, the gift of God's Word is a gift that keeps on giving and keeps on calling us to give in return. It dares us to be like the gift-giver and to become gifts for others, not only at Christmas, but at every moment of life.

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TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — All the ends of the earth will behold the salvation of our God (Isaiah 52:7-10).

Psalm — All the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of God (Psalm 98).

Second Reading — God has spoken to us through the Son, the very imprint of God's being (Hebrews 1:1-6).

Gospel — The Word became flesh; from his fullness we have all received grace (John 1:1-18 [1-5, 9-14]).

The English translation of the Psalm Responses from the *Lectionary for Mass* © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

**Solemnity of Mary,
the Holy Mother of God**

Saturday Vigil, December 31, 2016
4:00 pm-Adult Choir & Instrumentalist

Sunday, January 1, 2017
8:00 am (*Incense will not be used*)
10:00 am
12:00 pm



The Rectory Office will close at 2:00 pm on December 31 and will be closed on January 1 & 2.

LOVE

Let those who never loved before, love now: Let those who always loved, love the more.—Anonymous

*The Priests, Sisters and Staff of
Saint Teresa of Avila Parish
Wish You and Your Family
A truly Blessed, Joyous
Christmas,
And much
Health and
Happiness in the New
Year!*



Today we welcome our Lord and Savior who became man to save us from sin and bring us everlasting life. In that same spirit may we ask God to strengthen us for the work ahead in the **ON MISSION FOR THE CHURCH ALIVE!** planning initiative. Help us to be open to the ways in which we can help build the Church of Pittsburgh. There will be parish-based opportunities for prayer and conversation—check your bulletin and learn more at OnMissionChurchAlive.org.

ST. TERESA'S MEN'S RETREAT--Half Price Sale!
Christmas is here, and St. Teresa's Men's Retreat is just a month away. This year's retreat will be held the weekend of **January 27-29, 2017** at St. Paul of the Cross Retreat Center on the South Side.
If you bring a son, grandson, or son-in-law to the retreat as a first time retreatant, he can attend for half price. For more information, please contact either Tom Dionise at 412.364.7322(tomdionise@hotmail.com) or Gerry Kunic at 412.874.6186 (usmcgrk@yahoo.com).

A Rachel's Vineyard weekend retreat for post-abortion healing will be held on January 20-22, 2017 at Tabor House in Millvale. To register or for more information, call Toni Jester at 412-352-5348 or email: toniafj1@comcast.net

LEARNED AT HOME

The mind of Christ is to be learned in the family. Strength of character may be acquired at work, but beauty of character is learned at home.

—Henry Drummond

*We offer our prayers and sympathy to the family of:
Sr. Kathleen Mack, OSB
May the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.*

VOCATION CRUCIFIX

From the Feast of the Holy Family (Dec. 30) until PENTECOST SUNDAY (June 4), the Vocation Committee is inviting individuals or families to take the **Vocation Crucifix** home for 2 weeks to pray for priestly, diaconal, religious and lay ministry vocations in the Church. A booklet accompanies the crucifix. There are items for young and older children to help them understand this ministry of vocation awareness. **The crucifix will be presented to you before the final blessing at a weekend Liturgy of your choice and can be returned to the Rectory Office at the end of the 2 weeks.** Call Tom (412-364-7322) or Sr. Irene (X540) to sign up.



Parish Stewardship - December 17/18, 2016

Regular Offertory	\$ 18,075
Amount Needed	\$ 23,359
Shortfall	(\$ 5,284)



Online Giving total for the current period is \$2,616 which is included in the above totals. To sign up for Online Giving, go to our parish website www.avilaparish.org and click on the Online Giving logo.

2016 Avila Campaign

\$360,000 2016 Goal: Parish Share/Avila Campaign
(\$271,332) YTD: Collected Payments/Pledges
(\$ 222) YTD: Pledges Outstanding
\$ 88,446 2016 Goal Still Needed

[Note: January statements will go out the week of January 23rd. Payments received after January 11th will not be on the statements, but will be included on the final February statements.]

*Thank you for your continued generosity.
May God bless you abundantly.*

YEAR END CONTRIBUTIONS

The last date for contributions to be received by St. Teresa which will be included in your 2016 year end statement, is Saturday, December 31. Envelopes put into the offertory basket on New Year's Eve Masses will be included, but not envelopes put into the Sunday, January 1, baskets. If you mail your contribution to the rectory, your mailing envelope must be postmarked no later than December 31. Envelopes can be hand delivered to the rectory office or dropped through the mail slot throughout the day on Saturday, December 31. Thank you for helping us to meet IRS regulations.

SAINT TERESA OF AVILA SCHOOL

Faith Grows * Excellence Abounds

St. Teresa of Avila School - Mission Statement

The mission of St. Teresa of Avila School is to provide a foundation in the Catholic faith as we integrate Christian values with the spiritual, intellectual, emotional, social, and physical development of the child. Committed to the highest standards of academic excellence, we enrich our students with the knowledge and skills essential for life-long learning in the 21st

The Saint Teresa of Avila School Family wishes all of our parishioners, friends, and visitors the peace and joy of this blessed Christmas season and the blessings of peace in the New Year. Thank you for your love and support!

Please save Box Tops for Education and Campbell's Soup labels as well as used toner cartridges. Also be sure to use your Giant Eagle Advantage Card and your Shop 'n Save card ...all help our school in various ways!

Have a question about what's happening at your parish school? Call 412 367 9001 Ext 531.

Visit our website at www.saintteresas.org

Altar Server Schedule**Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother Of God
Saturday, December 31**

4:15 pm-C. Spangler, C. Adomitis, T. Cook

6:00 pm-NO MASS

Sunday, January 1

8:00 am-A. Baker, N. Baker, B. Dumas

10:00 am-M. Bertocchi, M. Bertocchi, J. Bertocchi

12:00 pm-J. Riegner, A. Ciaramella, J. Ciaramella

BAPTISM PREPARATION CLASS

The next Baptism Preparation Class is **Wed., January 11 at 7:30 p.m.** It is held in the school library. Anyone who is expecting to have a child baptized in the next several months and has never attended a Baptism Preparation Class or has not attended a class for at least 5 years needs to attend. Register by calling Sharon at ext. 548. Our next class will be April 12 .

ST. TERESA MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH MINISTRY

Attention all 5th to 8th grade
Middle Schoolers!
Next Middle School Youth
Group Meeting:
Jan. 15th at 1pm

Our Middle School Youth Group will be meeting in the St. Teresa School Library at 1pm after the noon mass. Join us for an afternoon filled with food, games, and faith. We can't wait to see you there!

ONE BREAD ONE CUP

"One Bread, One Cup" is a five-day liturgical leadership conference focusing on the Word, Sacrament and Mission of the Roman Catholic Church for high school youth going into 10th to 12th grade, as well as those entering college in the fall. Conferences focus on

community building, leadership development, catechesis, liturgical and spiritual formation, and theological reflection.

At the conferences, youth discover the Church's treasures of Word, Sacrament and Mission and enjoy opportunities for fellowship and fun through team building, outdoor recreation, a variety show and a dance. Participants come to appreciate the Benedictine balance of prayer, work and recreation. Teens can chose to focus on a particular form of formation while at camp. We will be attending the conference from July 6th to the 10th. If you wish to attend please contact Susan at (412) 367-9001 ext. 547 or at stteresalifeteen@gmail.com.

ST. TERESA HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH MINISTRY**Come Join Us!**

St. Teresa's High School Youth Ministry is revamping how it does things this year. Our High School Youth Group will now be meeting every second Sunday of the month

after the noon mass in Schoppol Hall.

For our next meeting will be Sunday Jan. 8th at 1pm after the noon mass.

We can't wait to see you there!

CATHOLIC HEART WORKCAMP

A week of Work Camp is not an easy task to accomplish, but in the end your tired body will have a renewed spirit to go home and serve. At Catholic Heart Work Camp participants are given the opportunity to do service, attend mass daily, enjoy live music, skits, and programs, attend Eucharistic adoration, and so much more.

This amazing event will take place June 11th to the 17th and this year we will be headed to Mishawaka, IN. CHWC is open to teens going into 9th grade, up to those who are entering college next fall. The cost for this event if \$460.00 dollars this will cover the cost of transportation, room and board, and food. We will be doing fundraising this spring in order to help teens cover the cost of the trip.

If you wish to attend please contact Susan Mohall-Szymanski at (412) 367-9001 ext. 547 or at stteresalifeteen@gmail.com

INFORMATION PAGE

CHURCH NAME & ADDRESS

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SOFTWARE

**Microsoft® Publisher 2010
Adobe Acrobat® X Standard
Windows 7®**

PRINTER

hp® LaserJet 1300

TRANSMISSION DAY/TIME

Tuesday (12-20-16)/9:30am

SUNDAY DATE OF PUBLICATION

December 25, 2016

NUMBER OF PAGES SENT

1 thru 6, Plus Information Page

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS

When calling about the bulletin, please do not dial in any extension. If I am not in the office, the call may not be answered for several days. Let it ring through and some one else in the office will address your concerns.