



St. Therese Parish

9525 W Bluemound Rd
Milwaukee, WI 53226

sttheresemke.org
info@sttheresemke.org
(414) 771-2500
Facebook: @sttheresemke

We are St. Therese Catholic Church, a community of believers, who walk together by faith in Christ Jesus, and minister in the Little Way of St. Therese, as we strive hand-in-hand to live as God's people.

St. Vincent Pallotti Parish

East Church

5424 W Bluemound
Milwaukee, WI 53208

West Church/Office

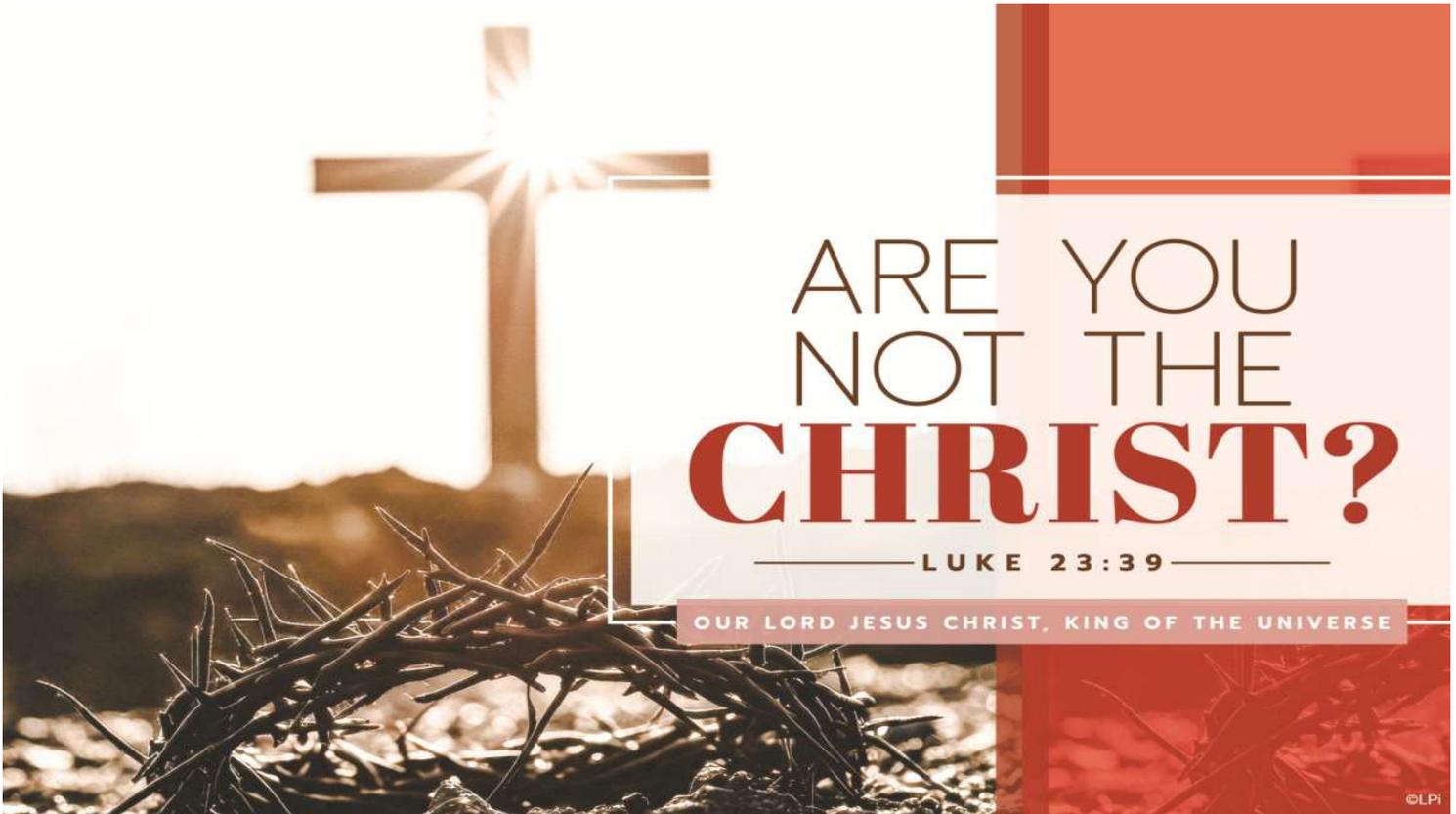
201 N 76th St
Milwaukee, WI 53213

stvincentpallotti.org / vpallotti@stvpc.org
(414) 453-5344
Facebook: @stvincentpallottimke
YouTube: @st.vincentpallottiparish



A Community of disciples, nourished by the Eucharist, caring for each other and reaching out to others.

November 23, 2025



Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

Luke 23:35-43

Not long ago, I was called to a hospital to anoint a woman in her early 80s. She was dying, and visibly in pain. But what struck me most wasn't her suffering — it was the atmosphere in the room. She had eight children and 30 foster kids, and many of them were gathered around her. You'd expect sorrow, fear, maybe even despair. But the room was filled with something else entirely — a quiet strength, a kind of sweetness. It was as if she was suffering not just with them, but for them. And they, in love, were suffering for her. The pain was real. But so was the peace. I didn't want to run. I felt as if I was in a little paradise, beeping machines and all.

I think of that moment when I hear today's Gospel. Jesus, hanging on the cross, doesn't look like a king. But one of the crucified, dying men beside him sees through the suffering and says, **“Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom” (Luke 23:42)**. That word — remember — literally means to make someone a member again. He's asking to be joined to Christ, to become part of his Body. And Jesus says, **“Today you will be with me in paradise.”**

He doesn't say, “I'll take your suffering away.” He says, **“You will be with me.”**

That's the strange power of Christ the King. He doesn't rule by avoiding suffering. He reigns by entering into it, and transforming it with love.

What are you suffering right now in your life? Likely you want it to stop. But if we are willing to suffer with him — paradise begins even today. — *Father John Muir* ©LPI

Parish Pastoral Council

1st Wednesday of the Month at 7:00PM

To contact a Parish Pastoral Council Member, send an email to council@sttheresemke.org or leave a message for them in either parish office. Meeting minutes are available in the parish offices.

Chairperson

Art Nennig

Vice Chairperson

Brett Surinak

Secretary

Jennifer Tierney

Trustees

Dennis Ferger – STP (414) 546-7330
Christopher Gauthier – SVP (414) 302-1033
Ann Maher – STP (414) 698-7016
Lenny Schaefer – SVP (414) 534-1450

Members-At-Large

David Helterbran Linda Okruhlica
Sr. Marilyn Metz Tom Ratkowski
Mary Noeske

Saint Vincent de Paul
(414) 462-7837

Hospital Visits

The Federal Privacy Regulation (HIPAA—Health Insurance Portability & Accountability Act) prohibits hospitals from informing churches of a patient’s presence unless the patient gives permission for the hospital to do so. If you are admitted to a hospital and would like a pastoral visit, please contact either Parish Office.

Prayer List for Mass

It is our privilege to pray at our weekend masses for those in need. If you would like to add a name to the list, please contact either Parish Office.

Need Prayer?

Call the Prayer Network at (414) 810-9844

Need Holy Communion?

Call either Parish Office

Pastor of St. Vincent Pallotti Parish & St. Therese Parish

Fr. Thomas Pulikkeel Chacko, SAC
ext. 1 at St. Therese and ext. 102 at St. Vincent Pallotti
fr.thomaspc@stvpc.org
(414) 308-6238

St. Therese Parish Office (414) 771-2500
For Parish Emergencies After Hours, Push 0

Office Hours

Sunday: 10:00AM to 11:00AM
Monday: 8:30AM–12:00PM; 12:00PM–3:30PM Remote
Tuesday: 8:30AM–3:30PM
Wednesday: Remote
Thursday: 8:30AM–12:00PM REMOTE; 12:00PM–3:30PM
Friday and Saturday: Closed

Director of Administrative Services

Heather Goeden ext. 2
heather@sttheresemke.org

Finance Director

Christine Jensen ext. 4
christine@sttheresemke.org

Choir Director

Carrie Sanders

Organist

Kathy Luty

Catechesis Ministry

Contact the St. Therese Parish Office

St. Vincent Pallotti Parish Office
(414) 453-5344

Office Hours:

Monday through Friday: 8:30AM–3:30PM

Director of Admin & Development

Susana Cuellar ext. 109
sscuellar@stvpc.org

Director of Liturgy & Music

Carrie Sanders (414) 258-4165 ext. 107
csanders@stvpc.org

Food Service Director

Laura Ruiz-Reyes ext. 120
lruiz-reyes@stvpc.org

Parish Secretary

Heather Goeden ext. 101
heather@sttheresemke.org

Bookkeeper

Kari Utzerath ext. 104
kutzerath@stvpc.org

Scrip Coordinator

Therese Schaefer (414) 534-3836

Librarian

librarian@stvpc.org

St. Vincent Pallotti Parish School Staff

Office: (414) 258-4165 Fax: (414) 258-9844

Principal

Joe Fryda ext. 111
jfryda@stvps.org

Vice Principal

Tracy Irwin ext. 114
tirwin@stvps.org

Office Manager/Choice Coordinator

Lirse Jones ext. 110
ljones@stvps.org

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday: 3:15–3:45PM - St. Vincent Pallotti - West
Sunday: 6:45–7:15AM - St. Vincent Pallotti - East
First Sunday of the Month: 8:15AM - St. Therese
Or by appointment on weekdays

Blessing of the Sick

After Mass on the First Full Weekend of the Month.
You can also contact either Parish Office or Fr. Tom PC on his cell phone at (414) 308-6238 to arrange a visit.

Baptism, Marriage and RCIA

Please call either Parish Office. Preparation can take nine months or more.

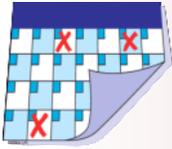
Funerals

Contact either Parish Office to plan.

Parish Membership / Support

Anyone over age 18 is invited to register as an adult member.
Please call either Parish Office for more information.

The deadline for the November 30 bulletin has passed. The next available bulletin is the December 7 bulletin.



Events for the Week

STP = St. Therese Parish SVP-E = St. Vincent Pallotti East Church
SVP-W = St. Vincent Pallotti West Church

Sunday, November 23

St. Therese Parish Office Closed/Fourth Sunday Formation – Virtual

6:45AM Reconciliation at SVP-E

7:30AM Mass at SVP-E

8:30AM Town Hall Meeting at SVP-E

9:00AM Mass at STP – Live Streamed on Facebook

9:15AM Children’s Liturgy of the Word at STP

10:00AM Town Hall Meeting at STP

10:30AM Mass at SVP-W – Live Streamed and Posted

10:45AM Children’s Liturgy of the Word at SVP-W

11:30AM Town Hall Meeting at SVP-W

Monday, November 24

6:25AM Morning Mass at SVP-E

6:00PM St. Vincent de Paul Society Meeting at STP

Tuesday, November 25

8:45AM Morning Mass at STP

12:00PM Afternoon Mass at SVP-W

6:30PM Finance Council at STP

Wednesday, November 26

Both Parishes Offices Open 8:30am to Noon; Closed in the Afternoon

6:25AM Morning Mass at SVP-E

7:00PM Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service at Nativity Lutheran Church

Thursday, November 27 – Happy Thanksgiving!

Both Parish Offices Closed

8:30AM Thanksgiving Morning Mass at SVP-W

7:00PM Group 100 AA

Friday, November 28

Both Parish Offices Closed

6:25AM Morning Mass at SVP-E

9:00AM Church Cleaning at SVP-W

Saturday, November 29

3:15PM Confessions at SVP-W

3:15PM Rosary at SVP-W

4:00PM Mass at SVP-W

Sunday, November 30 – First Sunday of Advent

St. Therese Parish Office Closed

6:45AM Reconciliation at SVP-E

7:30AM Mass at SVP-E

9:00AM Mass at STP – Live Streamed on Facebook

10:30AM Mass at SVP-W – Live Streamed and Posted

Intentions & Readings for the Week



November Sanctuary Candle at STP

For Mental Health Professionals

Sunday, November 23

Readings 2 Sm 5:1-3/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4, 4-5 (see 1)/Col 1:12-20/Lk 23:35-43

Monday, November 24

Observance: St. Andrew Dũng-Lạc, Priest, and Companions, Martyrs

Readings Dn 1:1-6, 8-20/Dn 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56/Lk 21:1-4

6:25AM (SVP-E) †Paul Konkol

Tuesday, November 25

Observance: St. Catherine of Alexandria, Virgin and Martyr

Readings Dn 2:31-45/Dn 3:57, 58, 59, 60, 61/Lk 21:5-11

8:45AM (STP) For the Parishioners of the St. Therese Community

12:00PM (SVP-W) Deacon Don & †Toni Borkowski

Wednesday, November 26

Readings Dn 5:1-6, 13-14, 16-17, 23-28/Dn 3:62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67/Lk 21:12-19

6:25AM †Edward Schwartz (J Badura)

Thursday, November 27

Observance: Thanksgiving Day

Readings Dn 6:12-28/Dn 3:68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74/Lk 21:20-28

8:30AM (SVP-W) †Rosemary Martin & Family

Friday, November 28

Readings Dn 7:2-14/Dn 3:75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81/Lk 21:29-33

6:25AM (SVP-E)

Saturday Mass, November 29

Readings Dn 7:15-27/Dn 3:82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87/Lk 21:34-36

4:00PM †Clifford Wiberg

Sunday Mass, November 30

Observance: 1st Sunday of Advent

Readings Is 2:1-5/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9/Rom 13:11-14/Mt 24:37-44

7:30AM (SVP-E) Deacon Don & †Toni Borkowski

9:00AM (STP) The St. Therese Parish Community

10:30AM (SVP-W) Parishioners



To be included, please call either Parish Office.

AG, Dorothy Ash, Peter Carlis, Brandon Choe, Irene Czarnecki, Michael Czarnecki, Shirley Diciaula, Nancy Dineen, Berni Doberstein, Dean Doberstein, Kylie Doyne, Dick Dufour, Elizabeth and Elijah, Theresa Gamsky, Family G, Sue Grignon, Edwin Gunther, Matthew Harrison, Dan Heinz, Josette Jaeger, Andrew James, Mary Kirchner, Helen Klister, Julie Kross, Ellen Lemkuil, Rachel Lund, Kathy Manthe, Debbie Martin, Loretta Merz, Robert Metrey, Hanna Miroslaw, Celeste Rau, Jacob & Jaxson Rivera, Kaity Shields, Michael Sullivan, Robert Szablewski, Beverly T., Rosann Thate, Terry Valdovinos, Mary Vanderbunt, John Wachowiak, Chris Wehausen

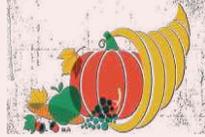
WHAT ARE YOU MOST THANKFUL FOR?



Thanksgiving Office Hours

St. Vincent Pallotti

- Wednesday, November 26: **Closed at Noon**
- Thursday, November 27: Closed
- Friday, November 28: Closed



St. Therese

- Wednesday, November 26: **8:30AM to Noon**
- Sunday, November 30: Closed
- Monday, December 1: Closed

Additional Change to St. Therese Hours

The St. Therese Parish Office will also be closed on Sunday, November 23.

St. Therese Weekday Mass Schedule Changes

There will be **NO Wednesday Evening Mass** at St. Therese on **November 26**. Join us at the Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service on Wednesday, November 26 at Nativity Lutheran at 7:00PM instead. See the article in this bulletin for more details.

An Easy Way to Help

Have you ever considered a very small way to help at Mass? How about bringing down the bread and wine at offertory time? It takes no experience and is definitely not a big time commitment. Please let an usher, sacristan, or hospitality minister know you are interested.

Liturgical Ministers...We Need You!

Sign up now to serve as a Lector, Hospitality Minister, Altar Server or Eucharistic Minister the rest of November and December at St. Therese Parish. Let's fill all these positions quickly through the Sign-Up Genius link on the parish website or contact Heather in the Parish Office. There are written instructions, as well as mentors, for those who are new to these ministries. We are grateful for those who sign up and minister often - but they need your help! If you are interested in joining a ministry at either parish, please contact Heather in the Parish Office.



Have You Returned Your Parish Stewardship Form?

Thank you to those of you who have returned the completed stewardship form. If you have yet to do so, please complete the form by updating your personal information, indicating a parish ministry or two you are interested in and your financial pledge if you are able to make one. Return the form in the collection basket or mail it or drop it off at either the Parish Office as soon as possible.

Altered Bulletin Deadlines for Holiday Season

Please note the following altered bulletin deadlines for the upcoming holiday season:

- December 7 Bulletin – Articles due November 24 at 8:00AM
- December 14 Bulletin – Articles due December 2 at 8:00AM
- December 21 Bulletin – Articles due December 9 at 8:00AM
- December 28 Bulletin – Articles due December 16 at 8:00AM
- January 4 Bulletin – Articles due December 22 at 8:00AM
- January 25 Bulletin – Articles due January 12 at 8:00AM

Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception

Holy Day of Obligation

Join us to celebrate the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, a holyday of obligation, on Monday, December 8. We will have Mass at 6:25AM at SVP-E, 8:00AM at SVP-W (School Mass), and 12:15PM at STP. All are welcome!



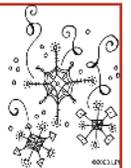
2025 Catholic Stewardship Appeal

Please prayerfully consider a donation to support the Catholic Stewardship Appeal and help our parishes reach our goals. Your gift of any size does God's work. Thank you for your support.

To donate, visit ww.catholicappeal.org, text APPEAL2025 to 414-348-8380 or mail your check to the Catholic Stewardship Appeal, 3501 S. Lake Drive, St. Francis, WI 53235.

Snow and Weather Closings

In the event of snow or weather closings for the parish, please check Channel 12 WISN-TV or WISN.com (WISN website) for closures. Please also note to look for "St. Therese–Milwaukee" in Milwaukee County. (Sometimes there is confusion with "St. Theresa" and "St. Therese" other cities and counties of the archdiocese.)



Sunday Masses Live-Streamed and Recorded!

- The 9:00AM Sunday Mass at St. Therese Parish is live-streamed on their Facebook page and posted on their website after Mass.
- The 10:30AM Sunday Mass at St. Vincent Pallotti is live-streamed and posted on their website and is also available on YouTube.

Schedule a Mass Intention in Memory of a Loved One

Consider donating a Mass intention in memory of a loved one or in celebration of a special event. To donate, contact Heather Goeden in the Parish Office.

Looking to donate online? Go to either Parish website to make a contribution on our online giving websites. Thank you for your generosity.

The Stewardship Parish Support tables with each parish's collection totals will be reported on the second weekend each month showing the entire previous month's contributions. Thank you for your support!

Please remember St. Vincent Pallotti and St. Therese Parish in your will.



From The Earth Ministry: Holiday Lights Recycling



It's that season when decorative lights from last year are unboxed, with some no longer functioning. Or maybe you want to replace old ones with something new for your tree or house decorations.

Please don't toss your broken or unused holiday string lights in the trash, headed to a landfill. LED lights contain mercury, a neurotoxin. Incandescent lights contain valuable copper that is better re-used than further mined. Instead, recycle:

Milwaukee County Zoo will take your decorative string lights—working or not—LED or incandescent during the month of December. Just let the gate attendant know during their usual operating hours that you are there to recycle lights, and they will take them from you without your having to drive up to the building. Zoo hours: Monday thru Friday 9:30AM –1:45PM. Sat/Sunday 9:30AM—3:45PM.

Or easier yet:

Church Drop-Off: bring them to church and drop them off at the Bluemound entrance at St. Therese or the entrance at St. Vincent Pallotti, starting November 23 through December 28. Earth Ministry elves will take them to the zoo for you.



Mark Your Calendars!

St. Vincent Pallotti Choir Cookie Sale

The choir will hold their annual Cookie Sale on the weekend of December 13/14 in the Parish Center. Please consider making a donation of homemade cookies or baking ingredients.

These are the baking items we will need: All-purpose flour, unsalted butter, and granulated sugar. We will need these ingredient donations by December 7. A big "Thank You" in advance. More details to follow.

There will also be a used book sale which will include travel books, books on sports, mysteries, kids books, and more. Books and cookies – what could be better? No book will be priced over \$2, even the hardcover ones, and many books will be priced at 50 cents. Want to donate a book or two? Contact Karen at librarian@stvpc.org.

Watch the Bulletin for more details.

St. Therese Cookie Sale December 20

Please sign up to bake for the St. Therese cookie sale either in the back of church or on the St. Therese website! We need the generous contributions of our talented St. Therese bakers to make this event a success.

Reach out to our new cookie chairperson, Jennifer Poethig, at (414) 217-3376 if you have any questions.

Watch the bulletin for ordering information, coming soon!



Advent Giving 2025

Advent begins next weekend on Sunday, November 30. As we prepare ourselves for Christmas

and the birth of the baby Jesus, we also remember the words of the adult Jesus telling us to care for the poor, the homeless, the sick and the suffering. Advent Giving at St. Therese this year can be done online, through the mail, or in person. We will use the SCRIP program to provide gift cards for veterans, older adults, families with children with Down Syndrome and those in financial need. The organizations who will distribute our gifts are Down Syndrome Association of Wisconsin, ERAS Senior Network, St. Vincent de Paul Society, and the VA Hospital. The special Advent SCRIP order forms will be available in next week's bulletin and on the St. Therese website. Orders and payment must be turned in by the end of the 9:00AM Mass on Sunday, December 7. The gift cards will be distributed to the organizations directly.

We are also collecting hats, mittens and gloves for men, women and children to be distributed through Capuchin Community Services, as well as cash donations for St. Joseph Apache Mission in the Diocese of Las Cruces.

Thank you for your generosity.

Happy Thanksgiving

Ecumenical Thanksgiving Eve Prayer Service

Wednesday, November 26 at 7:00PM. This year, Nativity Lutheran (6905 W Bluemound Rd, Milwaukee) will host the service. What a great way to bring in the holiday season, joining in prayer and song, giving thanks to God for the many blessings we receive. The combined choirs from St. Vincent Pallotti, Martin Luther Lutheran Church, Nativity Lutheran, Syro-Malabar and St. Therese will enrich the service and fill the church with joyful music. Hospitality will follow immediately after the service.

Thanksgiving Morning Mass

Thursday, November 28 at 8:30AM at St. Vincent Pallotti-West (201 N 76th St)

Thanksgiving Prayer

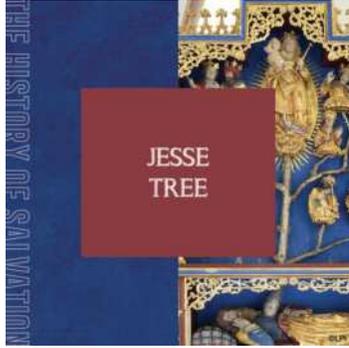
This Thanksgiving, let us remember all the good things, and people, who have come into our lives. We focus on thanking each one who has helped us, and ultimately thank God for the good gifts of this world. Let us pray...

God our Father,

Graciously accept from your humble people a thankful heart and spirit. Everything we have and are able to share with others ultimately comes from your love of your creations. Often we think that everything we have is our own creation; we ask you this day to create in us a spirit of gratitude, that we may always know that all good gifts come from you. We ask this through Christ our brother, in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.



Devotions, Explained! Jesse Tree



The Jesse Tree is an Advent practice which recounts the history of salvation by tracing the lineage of Christ — the foretold “shoot from the stump of Jesse” who will bring peace and unity to the people of God (Isaiah 11:1).

In a way, creating a Jesse tree is the telling of one big story — the redemption of man — through the telling of many smaller stories — the fall of Adam, God’s promise to Abraham, the wandering of the Israelites, the greatness of David and the humble submission of Mary. A Jesse tree is adorned with symbols of these various people and stories, with the earliest ones hung from the topmost branches, progressing downward.

There are different versions of the Jesse Tree featuring different Old Testament figures and stories, but all begin with Adam and end with the birth of Jesus. It is an easy tradition to practice at home — all you need is a tree, paper, markers, scissors, string and a Bible. ©LPi

55+ Social Club Annual Christmas Party



All are welcome to join the members of the 55+ Social Club at their annual Christmas party on Friday, December 5 at 11:30AM at the Classic Cafe 84th (1650 S 84th St, West Allis). For our lunch we will be ordering off their menu so please bring cash or a credit card. Reservations are due this **Monday, November 24**. Contact Rosina at (262) 782-1966. Hope to see you there!



St Therese Reuniting Us As “One Nation, Under God” Prayer Service

Thank you to all that attended the prayer service last weekend. Our next Prayer Service is scheduled for December 21 in the St. Therese Chapel after Mass. We look forward to seeing you there.

Advent Prayer Materials

The Grow Your Faith Table (GYFT) has daily reflection booklets for Advent through Christmas to support your faith life. Each day offers a new perspective to reflect, meditate, and pray on. So take one today as Advent starts next Sunday. Be prepared in the best way for our Savior.

Standing Committee Monthly Reports

Parish Pastoral Council

The Combined Parish Council met on October 1 and following are key items discussed:

- Updated Parish Council on the Ad Hoc Communications Committee status
 - Town Halls will be held following each Mass on the November 22/23 weekend
 - Presentation and bulletin inserts are being prepared prior to that weekend
- Progress on combining the office staff from SVP and STP was reviewed
 - Little progress was reported on establishing a cost sharing agreement and new job descriptions
- Bringing the Finance Councils together to better understand each parish’s financial position was discussed
 - Little to no progress as SVP will be ready to discuss once we get into budgeting for next year
- The bus trip to Holy Hill for the celebration of St Therese’s 100th anniversary of her canonization is underway
 - As of November 5, we have 12 people signed up and expect more before the November 17 trip
- Council agreed with Tom Ratkowski’s suggestion for some new messages on outdoor electronic message board at STP and will proceed following Father PC’s approval
- Completed the update of Strategic Priorities for the next fiscal year
 - Priority #2 related to the Faith Formation goal was changed to: Increase participation in the life of the church through ministry, faith formation, and sacraments by 15% by June 30, 2027
- The Standing Committees will receive the update goals and priorities by December 1, 2025 with a request to update their annual plans by early January 2026
 - Standing Committees may request help from the Parish Council to discuss the updated priorities and prepare their Annual Plan.

Next Combined Parish Council meeting is set for December 3 at St. Therese’s Miriam’s Corner at 7:00PM

Christian Formation Committee

- Fourth Sunday Formation continues with a 10-15 minute video after Saturday and Sunday liturgies (November is virtual due to parish town halls)
- Children’s Liturgy of the Word for children is available on the Second and Fourth Sundays of the month (STP-9:00 SVP-10:30)
- Advent materials, including a reflection booklet, are available on the Grow Your Faith Table
- Annual plan is being finalized for submission to Parish Council

Hurricane Melissa Recovery | Catholic Relief Services

Catholic Relief Services, which acts on behalf of the Catholic Church to assist people outside the United States, is helping those affected by Hurricane Melissa. The powerful storm swept across Jamaica, Haiti and Cuba in late October. At its peak, Hurricane Melissa reached sustained winds of 185 mph, making it one of the most intense Atlantic storms in more than a century — surpassing even Hurricane Katrina.

Donate online at <https://www.crs.org/donate/hurricane-melissa>, by phone at 1-877-HELP-CRS or by check to Catholic Relief Services, Hurricane Melissa P.O. Box 5278, Tipton, IA 52772-0517.



Eight Ideas for Supporting a Grieving Friend during the Holidays

Knowing how to support a grieving friend is never easy. This is even more true during the holiday season. They may be dreading Thanksgiving or Christmas and you may be wondering what you can do to help ease their pain. One size does not fit all but here are a few ideas to get you started.



1: Support their holiday choices

Whether the person who's grieving has decided to fly to Bali, watch Netflix all day, or do exactly the same thing they have always done, be supportive of their choices. Yes, their choices may have an impact on you, but try not to be too disappointed or concerned. Keep in mind that just because they take a break or do things differently this year, doesn't mean they will do things this way forever.

2: Invite, but don't push

Extend holiday invitations, but make it clear that you absolutely understand if they aren't up for it. No one wants to be left off the invitation list because people assume they don't want to do anything, and at the same time, no one wants to have the pressure of showing up for a zillion holiday events. An invite offered even with the understanding that they might not make it may be exactly what the person needs.

3: Be prepared, their plans might change

Whether it is a last minute bail on a holiday party, or a last minute decision to accept the holiday dinner invitation you extended that they initially declined, try to be flexible and understanding. Grief is totally erratic and you sometimes realize that you don't actually want to do what you thought you wanted to do (and vice versa). Let your friend know you support any changes they need to make.

4: Send a thoughtful holiday card

It's not that your grieving friend isn't happy for you and your beautiful family or that they aren't interested in the joy you shared in your family's annual holiday letter. But it can sometimes be hard to see all the smiling, happy families without feeling a tinge of pain about their now incomplete family. Instead of the standard photo-card, a thoughtful handwritten note acknowledging how tough the holidays must be and sharing a memory can go a long way.

5: Consider a memorial gift or donation

If you exchange gifts with your friend, there are many beautiful memorial gifts out there that may be a good option. You can also acknowledge their grief this holiday by making a donation in their loved one's name/memory to a charity that is important to them or that was important to their loved one.

6: Offer practical help and support

Practical support can take many different shapes and forms depending on what your friend needs, but try to offer something specific rather than offering a vague "let me know what I can do." Some things that might be helpful are offering to help them with decorating (if they plan to decorate), help with holiday shopping, gift wrapping, watching their kids so they can go shopping, offer to take their kids to holiday events they might not be up for, cleaning, prepping for a holiday meal, etc.

7: Listen without minimizing, judging, or giving advice

Now, if your friend asks you for advice, that's a different story. But if your friend just needs to vent, complain, and emote about their misery trying to make it through the holidays, just listen and support them. Don't try to find a silver lining, don't tell them they should be over it, don't tell them what they 'should' or 'shouldn't' do. Just be there!

8: Remember, grief doesn't only impact the first holiday season

After the death of a loved one, grief just kind of becomes a part of a person's holiday season. Many people will probably make your friend feel like they should be "over it" by the second or third holiday season. Even though things may be a little easier some elements of the holiday season may still be very difficult. Keep this in mind and provide them with the same kindness, support, and consideration that you did in the first year after their loss.



SUPPORT
OUR
ADVERTISERS!



**ROMAN
ELECTRIC**

Plumbing, Heating & Cooling
Residential Work

640 S. 70th St.

414-471-8565

**Bluemound
Bowl**
(262) 786-6280
12935 W. Bluemound Rd.

**BRING IN
THE FAMILY**

www.bluemoundbowl.com

IF YOU LIVE ALONE

MDMedAlert!

At HOME and AWAY!

As Low As
\$19⁹⁵
/mo.

You Need

- ✓ Ambulance/Police
- ✓ Family/Friends
- ✓ GPS & Fall Alert

CALL NOW! **800.808.9294**

md-medalert.com



**BUNZEL'S
OLD FASHIONED
MEAT MARKET**

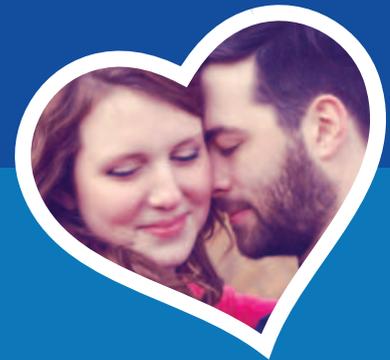
Fresh Custom Cut
Choice Meats

Party Trays • Catering
Thank You For Supporting
A Family Tradition

Parish Member
9015 W. BURLEIGH
873-7960

www.bunzelmeats.com

**catholicmatch[®]
Wisconsin**



CatholicMatch.com/WI

**DOES YOUR NONPROFIT
ORGANIZATION NEED
A NEWSLETTER?**

**OUR COMM
NEWSLETTER**
OCTOBER EDITION



Engaging,
ad-supported
print and digital
newsletters to reach
your community.



Scan to
contact us!

Visit lpicomunities.com

GROSS
Heating & Air Conditioning

For all your heating
& cooling needs.

3260 N 126th Street
Brookfield

262.783.6000
www.grossheating.com

FREE Estimates
100% Satisfaction Guarantee

LET'S GROW YOUR BUSINESS

Place Your Ad Here
and Support Our Parish!

**CONTACT ME
Sharon Boinski**

sboinski@4LPi.com
(800) 950-9952 x2978

ParishesOnline.com

Locate a Parish,
Find a Mass,
Read the Bulletin.

Powered by Masstimes.org



Masstimes.org provides
the most accurate liturgy
data in the U.S., and we are
grateful for their partnership.



SUPPORT
OUR
PARISH



**WE APPRECIATE OUR
ADVERTISERS!**



For ad info. call 1-800-950-9952 • www.4lpi.com

St. Therese & Vincent Pallotti, Milwaukee, WI.

A 4C 01-0006