



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

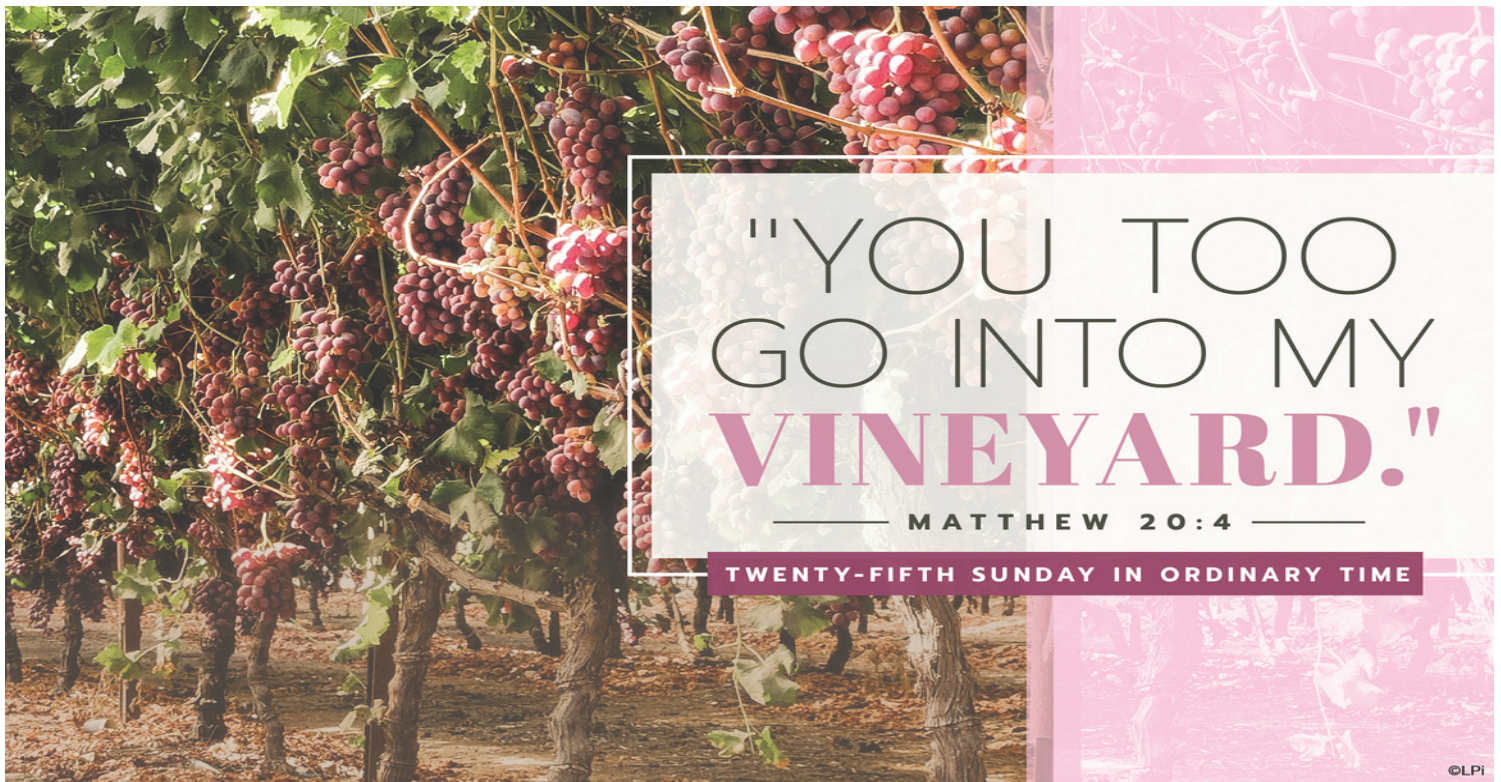
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YouTube: @st.vincentpallottiparish



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

September 20, 2026



25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Matthew 20:1-16

Every December, the priests of my diocese gather for a Christmas dinner with our bishop. Nearly 200 of us in one room: newly ordained and long retired, pastors of large parishes and quiet confessors, men full of energy and others moving more slowly. Some carry visible success; others bear hidden wounds. It is a tapestry of vocations and lives. When the bishop thanks us, I am always moved. For a moment, none of our differences matter. What matters is that we belong to one another.

I usually leave that evening with a deep sense of peace, but also with a sober realization. Nothing drains joy from the vineyard of the Lord faster than comparison. The quiet habit of measuring, ranking, and resenting can creep in even among those who sincerely serve God.

That is what Jesus exposes in today's parable of the workers in the vineyard. The early laborers are not upset because they were treated unjustly; they are angry because others were treated generously. Their resentment blinds them to the gift already in their hands. When the landowner asks, "Are you envious because I am generous?" he names the real wound. This tension echoes throughout salvation history: the elder brother resenting the prodigal, the faithful servant scorning the latecomer. Jesus does not deny the labor of those who have borne the heat of the day, but he refuses to let God's mercy become a zero-sum game.

In the end, the vineyard's reward is not about fairness but belonging. The joy offered is communion with a generous Father, who delights in gathering early and late, strong and weak, into one household of grace. — *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

Mary Noeske Emily Smith

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

Bulletin Deadline:

Monday, 8:00am

Announcement Deadline:

Thursday, 8:00am

All submissions must be in writing to either Parish Office; email preferred.

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

Fr. Thomas Pulikkeel Chacko, SAC

414-308-6238

fr.thomaspc@stvpc.org

ext. 1 at St. Therese and ext. 102 at St. Vincent Pallotti

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

Office Hours

We have no regular onsite office hours at St. Therese. Please contact staff directly to set up a time to meet or come to the St. Vincent Pallotti Parish Office during posted office hours for assistance.

Director of Operations & Facilities Management

Heather Goeden ext. 2

heather@sttheresemke.org

Finance Director

Christine Jensen ext. 4

christine@sttheresemke.org

Choir Director

Carrie Sanders

csanders@stvpc.org

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 Finance, HR, and Administration

Susana Cuellar ext. 109

sscuellar@stvpc.org

Director of Liturgy & Music

Carrie Sanders ext. 107

csanders@stvpc.org

Director of Food Service and Hospitality

Laura Ruiz-Reyes ext. 120

lruiz-reyes@stvpc.org

Director of Operations & Facilities Management

Heather Goeden ext. 101

heather@sttheresemke.org

Bookkeeper

Kari Utzerath ext. 104

kutzerath@stvpc.org

Administrative & Communications Assistant

Chloe Surinak

nsurinak@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

Lirise Jones ext. 110

jones@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 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 OCIA

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

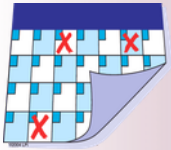
Funerals

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.



Events for the Week

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

Sunday, September 20

Catechetical Sunday Blessing/Birthday & SVdP Collection Weekend at SVP
SCRIP Pick-Up Weekend at STP

- 6:45am Reconciliation at SVP-E
- 7:00am Rosary at SVP-E
- 7:30am Mass at SVP-E
- 9:00am Mass at STP – Live Streamed on Facebook
- 10:00am Rosary Prayer Service at STP
- 10:30am Mass at SVP-W – Live Streamed and Posted

Monday, September 21

- 6:25am Morning Mass at SVP-E
- 4:30pm Merger Planning Committee Meeting at SVP-E
- 6:00pm Faith Formation Opening Liturgy at St. Jude

Tuesday, September 22

- 8:45am Morning Mass at STP
- 12:00pm Afternoon Mass at SVP-W
- 6:30pm STP Finance Council at STP

Wednesday, September 23

- 6:25am Morning Mass at SVP-E
- 8:15am SVP School Mass at SVP-W

Thursday, September 24

- 11:30am Adoration at SVP-W
- 12:00pm Afternoon Mass at SVP-W
- 4:00pm Choir Rehearsal at SVP-W
- 6:30pm Prayer & Worship Committee Meeting at SVP-W
- 7:00pm Group 100 AA

Friday, September 25

- 6:25am Morning Mass at SVP-E
- 9:00am Church Cleaning at SVP-W

Saturday, September 26

- 3:15pm Confessions at SVP-W
- 4:00pm Mass at SVP-W
- 5:00pm Rosary at SVP-W
- 5:00pm Fourth Sunday Formation at SVP-W

Sunday, September 27

Sharing Weekend/SCRIP Pick-Up Weekend at STP

- 6:45am Reconciliation at SVP-E
- 7:00am Rosary at SVP-E
- 7:30am Mass at SVP-E
- 8:15am Fourth Sunday Formation at SVP-E
- 9:00am Mass at STP w/ Children's Liturgy of the Word
Live Streamed on Facebook
- 10:00am Fourth Sunday Formation at STP
- 10:30am Mass at SVP-W w/ Children's Liturgy of the Word
Live Streamed and Posted
- 11:30am Fourth Sunday Formation at SVP-W

Intentions & Readings for the Week



September Sanctuary Candle at STP

For Terry Valdovinos

Sunday, September 20

Observance: 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time; Catechetical Sunday

Readings *Is 55:6-9/Ps 145:2-3, 8-9, 17-18/Phil 1:20c-24, 27a/Mt 20:1-16a*

Monday, September 21

Observance: St. Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist; National Migration Week

Readings *Eph 4:1-7, 11-13/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5/Mt 9:9-13*

6:25am (SVP-E) †Ruth Diener (J Thomas)

Tuesday, September 22

Readings *Prv 21:1-6, 10-13/Ps 119:1, 27, 30, 34, 35, 44/Lk 8:19-21*

8:45am (STP) †Patricia Simmons

12:00pm (SVP-W) †James Kugler (Klimt & Perenick Families)

Wednesday, September 23

Observance: St. Pius of Pietrelcina, Priest

Readings *Prv 30:5-9/Ps 119:29, 72, 89, 101, 104, 163/Lk 9:1-6*

6:25am (SVP-E) Successful surgery for M. Flejter (M Biernat)

8:15am SVP School Mass

Thursday, September 24

Readings *Eccl 1:2-11/Ps 90:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14 and 17bc/Lk 9:7-9*

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

Friday, September 25

Readings *Eccl 3:1-11/Ps 144:1b and 2abc, 3-4/Lk 9:18-22*

6:25am (SVP-E) Special intention of Marilyn Biernat

Saturday, September 26

Observance: Sts. Cosmas and Damian, Martyrs

Readings *Eccl 11:9-12:8/Ps 90:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14 and 17/Lk 9:43b-45*

4:00pm (SVP-W) †Mary Ann, †Jean, & †Leonard Duehring (K Boreson)

Sunday Mass, September 27

Observance: 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time; Priesthood Sunday

Readings *Ez 18:25-28/Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9/Phil 2:1-11/Mt 21:28-32*

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

9:00am (STP) †Jim Holmes and the St. Therese Parish Community

10:30am (SVP-W) Blessings for Estrella Antonio on her Quinceanera (Family)



To be included, please call either Parish Office.

Alexandra Guliano, Dorothy Ash, Mark B., Dan Brady, Bonita Brunker, Peter Carlis, Brandon Choe, Irene Czarnecki, Nancy Dineen, Dean Doberstein, Kylie Doyne, Elizabeth and Elijah, Theresa Gamsky, Mary G, Family G, Sue Grignon, Edwin Gunther, Matthew Harrison, Dan Heinz, Josette Jaeger, Andrew James, Janice Kandziora, Mary Kirchner, Helen Klister, Julie Kross, Ellen Lemkuil, Rachel Lund, Kathy Manthe, Debbie Martin, Loretta Merz, Collette Massey, Myles Melloch, Bob O'Neil, Celeste Rau, Jacob & Jaxson Rivera, Kaity Shields, Michael Sullivan, Robert Szablewski, Jim & Beverly T., Rosann Thate, Terry Valdovinos, Mary Vanderbunt, John Wachowiak, Chris Wehausen





Thank you Kari! Best Wishes!

For those who may not know, St. Vincent Pallotti Bookkeeper - Kari Utzerath, has decided to pursue a new job opportunity and her last day with the Parish was Friday, September 18. We want to thank her for her years of service with our parish and wish her well on this next chapter. Many blessings to her and her family.



On Saturday, October 3 we will have our annual Pet Blessing in honor of the feast of St. Francis of Assisi, the Patron Saint of Animals. Join us at St. Vincent Pallotti-West from 2:00pm to 3:00pm in the parking lot area between the Parish Office and the Church (Door #1). All are welcome to bring their pets, no matter how big or small, to receive a blessing. Please be sure your pets are properly restrained and Father will bless them.

St Therese Reuniting Us As "...One Nation, Under God..." Prayer Service



This is the third weekend of the month and we invite you to join us for our monthly Rosary Prayer Service in the Chapel after Mass.

During this 25 minute service, we say the Rosary and ask Blessed Mary to intervene with the Lord for His help to again make us "...One Nation, Under God..." with love and respect for all. We conclude with a short meditation to help us prepare for the week ahead. Please join us in prayer.

Please Help Us Keep Our Prayer List Current

It's time to update our prayer list. If you have submitted a name for the prayer list want that name to remain on the list, please contact Heather Goeden by September 20.



Sacrament Schedule Change

Due to the Mass schedule change on Sunday, October 4 for the Feast of St. Therese, we will **NOT** have the Blessing of the Sick or Confessions that day.

We will offer both at the 4:00pm Mass on Saturday, October 3 only. We apologize for any inconvenience.



ADULT FORMATION Opportunities

Fourth Sunday Formation

Our next Fourth Sunday Formation sessions will take place on September 26/27 after all Masses at both parishes. The topic is Saint Thérèse of Lisieux. Plan to stay after Mass for 10-15 minutes that weekend and learn more about the Catholic faith. Bring a friend!

Save THE Date!

Wednesday, October 21 from 8:30am to 6:00pm

Pilgrimage to the National Shrine of Our Lady of Champion with St. Jude!

More information will be coming soon!

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

Please consider donating a Mass intention in memory of a loved one or in celebration of a special event. Most weekend Masses are scheduled for 2026, but there are many weekday Masses open. To donate, please contact Chloe Surinak 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.

Standing Committee Monthly Reports

Parish Pastoral Council Highlights

The Prayer and Worship Committee presented a progress update of their activities to meet their Annual Plan:

- The Committee ask for help in getting ministers to sign up for each Mass. Suggestion was made that the Parish Pastoral Council should cover one weekend a month as ministers at the Masses.
- Council agreed that the Thanksgiving Ecumenical Service activity will be canceled as the service is not getting enough attendance

Council was updated by the Merger Steering Committee on activities:

- Effort is on target to meet the 1/1/27 merger date
- Naming Committee process has reduced Parishioner input to 10 names
 - Email has gone to Parishioners advising the names and seeking input
 - The 10 names will be reduced to three and sent to the Archbishop for his selection of the final name before the end of September
- The Merger Financial Committee provided an update of their activity:
 - Council recommended that this committee look at duplicate systems we have and attempt consolidate them before the merger
- Council was provided a summary of the activity at the “Listening Sessions”
 - Time was spent answering Parishioner questions at the meetings
 - While answers did not always satisfy everyone, they provided reasoning for what was being done and gave everyone a chance to speak their mind

A Motion was approved to accept a Parish Council Annual Plan for Fiscal Year 26/27

- Complete the merger by 1/1/27
- Implement a training program for councils and committee members on the Archdiocese Parish Norms
- Establish a study group to determine what is needed to grow our Parish, especially for families and young adults
- Develop a “Time in Prayer” Plan for the councils, committees and families

Liaisons provided committee updates from the various Committee meetings

Next Parish Pastoral Council Meeting is 10/7/26 at Pallotti House Upper Room 7PM

Prayer & Worship

The Prayer and Worship Committee has begun to meet again. Our brains may still be saying summer but our calendars are saying fall. We have begun to discuss the celebrations coming up this season.

First on the list is our annual Pet Blessing on Saturday, October 3 at St. Vincent Pallotti West. It will be held in the afternoon from 2:00-3:00pm. Our goal is to involve the community, as well as parishioners.

Next is the St. Therese Feast Day celebration on October 4 at St. Therese. Mass will be celebrated at 10:00. A guest speaker has been invited. This service will be followed by a luncheon and a raffle and auction in Heck Hall. Come down. Maybe you'll be lucky.

In November there is A Day to Remember celebration. At this service we pray for the deceased of our parish as well as the relatives of parish members who have died this passed year. We will be looking at how we can combine this celebration once the merger is complete.

Finally, we talked about the Ecumenical Thanksgiving service. It seems there were many wrinkles that needed to be ironed out and so we planned to include this on our September agenda. Post Meeting Note: This event has been canceled.

This may be a time of change, children go back to school and fall is here, but one thing that never changes is God's love for you. October is the month of the holy rosary. Mary is listening. Pray.

Nepal Flood Relief

Catastrophic floods swept through communities along Nepal's Bhotekoshi and Trishuli river system, causing widespread devastation. Families affected by the disaster need safe shelter, food, clean water, hygiene supplies and other essential household items as search, rescue and emergency relief efforts continue. Catholic Relief Services (CRS) is working with Caritas Nepal and local partners to understand immediate needs and help families receive support. Please join our parish community in praying for our sisters and brothers in Nepal. If you are able, consider making a donation to support the efforts of CRS and Caritas Nepal at www.crs.org/donate/nepal-flood



From Our Classrooms:

Rooted in Faith, Growing in Fruit

There is nothing quite like the energy of a new school year, and St. Vincent Pallotti Catholic School is full of it right now. Hallways are buzzing, classrooms are settling into their new routines, and students and teachers alike are bringing fresh excitement to the year ahead. We are so grateful to be part of this parish community and wanted to start this new column as a way to keep you close to what is happening in our school throughout the year.

This year's school theme is "Rooted in Faith, Growing in Fruit," drawn from the fruit of the Spirit in St. Paul's letter to the Galatians. Each month, our students focus on living out one of these virtues in their classrooms, on the playground, and at home. This month's focus is self-control. To celebrate students who model this virtue, two students from each class will receive the Friar Focus Award, inspired by the life and witness of St. Francis of Assisi. We are excited to watch this theme take root all year long.

Finally, we want to thank everyone who joined us for our Grandfriend's Day celebration on Wednesday, September 16. We welcomed over 100 visitors for a special Mass, an open house, the Scholastic Book Fair, and a luncheon. It was a joy to fill our school with grandparents and special friends, and we are thankful for a community that shows up for our students in such a meaningful way.



The word "catechesis" means "to echo." Literally, we are to echo the good news of Jesus Christ to the world. This is not a suggestion; it is a command of our Lord. Some people are called and set apart in our communities as catechists, those formally trained and charged with passing on the Gospel to children and adults, inside and outside of our communities. On Catechetical Sunday, we acknowledge them and remind ourselves of the need for formation and growth in all of us. To be a catechist is a privileged calling, and today be sure to say "thank you" to one in your community.

However, it would be wrong on this day to only look to those bearing the NAME of catechist for an echoing of good news. ALL of us are called to echo and share the Gospel message. Parents are the first and primary catechists in a child's life. But we also are important catechists in the lives of our coworkers, our spouses, our relatives, and our friends. Some say catechesis begins in the home, and while that is true, it carries with it a parent/child connotation. But where does catechesis really begin? It begins in the HEART. This year on Catechetical Sunday, may your heart be moved to motivate you to share with others the good news of Jesus Christ.

Who is an Altar Server?

† An altar server is a person who assists the priest and deacon during the celebration of the Holy Mass and other liturgical celebrations. Their service helps the worship of the Church take place with order, reverence, and devotion.

† Altar servers are not only young people. The ministry can include boys, girls, and adults who are properly prepared and willing to serve God at the altar with faith and dedication.

† The main role of an altar server is to assist during Mass by helping with the processional cross, candles, liturgical books, and other items needed for the celebration. Their service allows the priest and deacon to focus more fully on the sacred mysteries being celebrated.

† Serving at the altar is a ministry of humility and love. Altar servers are called to pray, pay attention, respect the sacred space, and understand the importance of the actions taking place during the liturgy.

† Through this ministry, altar servers grow in their knowledge of the Mass and deepen their relationship with Christ. Their service can help them develop discipline, responsibility, and a stronger appreciation for the beauty of Catholic worship.

† Altar serving is a beautiful way to participate actively in the life of the Church. By giving their time and talents, altar servers help the entire community worship God with greater reverence and joy.

† To serve at the altar is to serve Christ and His Church. Every altar server, regardless of age, is called to offer their service with a faithful heart and a spirit of love.

If you wish to be an Altar Server, kindly contact the Pastor or the Parish Office.

God bless all the Altar Servers



"Look, I am coming soon! My reward is with me, and I will give to each person according to what they have done." - Revelation 22:12



From the Earth Ministry: Vatican II Award for Founder of CEC

Joe Meyer has been selected by Archbishop Jefferey Grob as a 2026 Vatican II Award recipient. The Archdiocese of Milwaukee established the annual Vatican II Awards in 1991 to honor individuals who live out the teachings and vision of the Second Vatican Council. In 2016, Joe Meyer started the Laudato Si' Project. Casting a vision for a place and a community where faith, nature, and science can be experienced in true harmony, Joe worked tirelessly to build what would become the Catholic Ecology Center. Visit the Catholic Ecology Center at its website www.catholicecologycenter.org or in person via a beautiful country drive to W1468 County Road NN, Neosho, WI. The awards ceremony is Tuesday, September 22 at 6:00pm at The Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist, Milwaukee. The awards ceremony and reception are free and open to the public.

St. Therese Parish Feast Day Celebration October 4, 2026

Mass at 10:00am

Lunch, Raffles, and Silent Auction to Follow

**Join us on Sunday, October 4
to celebrate the Feast of St. Therese**

St. Therese Parish - 9525 W. Bluemound Rd, Milwaukee

Mass at 10:00am

Please Note: There is no 7:30am Mass at St. Vincent Pallotti-East, no 9:00am Mass at St. Therese and no 10:30am Mass at St. Vincent Pallotti-West

We will have a complimentary lunch following Mass.

Please RSVP by September 28



on either Parish website sttheresemke.org or stvincentpallotti.org, using the QR code, or by calling the Combined Parish Office at 414-453-5344 so we can plan to have enough food for everyone. There are also various ways you can help included on the sign up for those that are interested.



There will be assorted gift baskets that we are raffling off as well as a 50/50 cash raffle and a silent auction.

If you can't make it for the entire celebration, come for the part that fits your schedule.

Invite your family, friends and neighbors to join us!

All are welcome!



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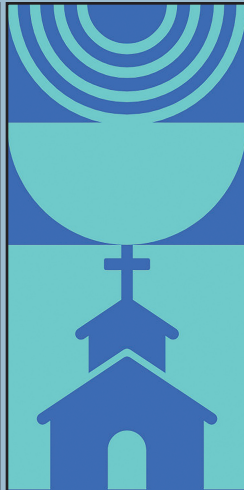
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