Community

Hospitality: As a community of faith, St. Therese’s Parish Community provides an atmosphere where we hope and pray that each person feels welcome and encouraged to grow in a deeper faith in Jesus Christ.

“All Are Welcome!”

Parish Membership: We welcome all who wish to join our parish. Please contact the parish office at your earliest convenience. We would like to meet with you and see that your presence in the parish is properly acknowledged and registered. We also would like to remind parishioners to notify the office of changes of address and/or telephone number.

Christian Initiation Process: This is a process by which believers become members of the Roman Catholic Church. This journey in faith is concerned with the total formation of the person into believing, living, praying and serving with the Church community. This gradual development climaxes in the celebration of Initiation at Eastertime. Our Inquiry Period is ongoing. For more information, contact the office.

Stewardship

God has entrusted us with many gifts: Time, Talent & Treasure. We hope and pray that all members will share their giftedness, to continue to “share the Good News of Jesus with all people” and “build up the Body in Love.”

Worship

Saturday: 5:00pm
Sunday: 7:30am, 9:00am, 11:00am
Daily (Mon., Wed., Thur., Fri.): 9:00am

Baptism: This first of the Sacraments of Initiation is a significant part of the person, the family and the parish community. For this reason, we encourage the celebration in a community setting. Two options are offered monthly:

- 11:00am on the Second Sunday
- 12:00pm on the Fourth Sunday

Baptismal Preparation Classes: The parish provides a Baptism Preparation Program for expectant parents. Godparents are welcome to attend, though it is not required. If you are expecting a child, please call to register for this program. Classes are held on the 2nd Tuesday of February, May, August, and November at 6:30pm in the Rectory.

Reconciliation: The Sacrament of Reconciliation is celebrated weekly every Saturday at 4:00 (NEW TIME) to 4:30 PM, or anytime upon request and also in a fuller form seasonally throughout the year.

Marriage: In order to properly prepare for marriage, it is expected that the couple contact the pastor to arrange for an appointment prior to making other arrangements. This must be done at least six months prior to the desired date of marriage. One or both individuals should be members of the Parish for at least one year before marriage at St. Therese’s.

Word

Catholic Schools: The parish community supports Catholic education in the Dioceses of Scranton. Families are encouraged to take advantage of these fine educational and formational institutions.

Religious Education Program:
- Grades 1-6: 4:30 to 5:45pm Mon. & 5:45 to 7:00pm Tues.
- Summer Session Events: 10/21/17, 12/9/17, 2/10/18, 4/14/18
- Family/At Home Program: 9/30/17, 11/4/17, 1/6/18, 3/24/18, 5/12/18
- Summer Session: July 9-20, 2018
- Pre-School/K Classes: 11am Sunday
- Grades 7 & 8: 5:45-7:00pm Tuesday 6:45-8:00pm Wednesday

Service

Hospitals/Nursing Homes and Anointing of the Sick: Please notify the office if your loved one is in a hospital, nursing home or confined to the home.

First Friday Calls: Each month, those unable to participate in Mass because of health or age are visited. Our Ministers of Holy Communion are available to bring Communion every Sunday to those confined to their homes.

Parish Bequests

As you think about sharing the fruits of your labor & your love with future generations, we would ask that you prayerfully consider the Church of Saint Therese.
**2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
**January 14, 2018**

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**10 Great Dates to ENERGIZE your Marriage** (A program to help spark romance with memory making evenings)

Dates are held the fourth Saturday of each month, beginning **January 27th**. Topics do not build on each other. Therefore, you do not need to attend every month to benefit and you do not need to commit to all 10 dates.

Dates **start at 6:30 pm** in Father Sammons Hall. The night begins with a 15 minute DVD, before you leave for your personal date. Date ideas include dinner, taking a walk, taking a drive, etc. Anything that will allow discussion time with each other.

There is no fee to attend, and the Parish will provide the accompanying book for free.

“**It’s never too early or too late to start dating your spouse again**”

Please RSVP by Monday, January 22nd to Terri Besecker at (570) 696-1144.

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**Calendar of Events**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>4:30pm</td>
<td>No CCD Classes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>5:45pm</td>
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<td></td>
<td>7:30pm</td>
<td>Choir Practice (H)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>6:45pm</td>
<td>No CCD Classes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>6:00pm</td>
<td>1st Reconciliation Practice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>10:00am</td>
<td>1st Reconciliation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7:00pm</td>
<td>Movie Night (H)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>11:00am</td>
<td>Pre-K/K</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**Community**

In honor of Martin Luther King Day, the office will be closed on **Monday, January 15, 2018**.

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**Little Sisters of the Poor**

The Little Sisters of the Poor will visit our parish on the weekend of February 10 & 11. The Little Sisters of the Poor care for the elderly poor in the spirit of humble service which they received from Jeanne Jugan. They welcome the elderly as they would Jesus Christ Himself and serve them with love and respect until death.

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**Daily Mass Cancellation**

Daily mass is canceled when classes are canceled in the Dallas School District. If school is delayed, please call 570-696-1144, Extension 13, after 7:30 A.M., to find out if mass is canceled or not.

In icy or snowy conditions, please use the new parking lot and enter the Church through the lower level (ramp entrance). The front plaza and side entrances will be blocked off and should not be used until we are able to shovel and/or salt them.

Your cooperation in this matter is appreciated and necessary.

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**The Sign of Peace and the Distribution of the Eucharistic Wine**

Due to the flu epidemic, it has been suggested that we dispense with shaking hands at the “Sign of Peace”, and with the distribution of the Eucharistic Wine. As soon as the epidemic ends, we will resume these liturgical practices.

Meanwhile, please note that Jesus is present, body, soul, and divinity, whole and entire, in the Eucharistic Bread.

Thank you for your acceptance and consideration of this matter.

*Father Jim*

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**9 DAYS FOR LIFE**

The U. S. Bishops invite us to pray for the respect and protection of life. A special novena will take place from January 18th through January 26th. You can sign up to receive daily intentions, reflections and more on your phone or online. Join today at www.9daysforlife.com.
There will be a Junior High Youth Group meeting on Sunday, January 21st, from 12-1:30 pm in St Therese’s church hall. Please join us for some prayer, games, and food! All students in 6th, 7th, and 8th grade are welcome!

Dear Fr. James Paisley,
Greetings from St. Francis of Assisi Parish, Houston, Texas.
We have received your parish’s generous donation of $500.00 to us for the purchase of CCD materials for our students. We received also the cards made by your students.
We are encouraged by your kind gesture and your prayers. Although our church, hall, school, and parish office were badly damaged, and the homes of about one third of our parishioners impacted, the Spirit of God is alive and active in the parishioners. For this, we thank God.
Extend our gratitude to St. Therese Catholic Community. Happy Christmas and God bless.
Sincerely in Christ,
Fr. Martin Eke, MSP

SOUPER BOWL OF CARING 2018
Members of our 8th grade Confirmation Class will participate in this effort to glorify God and care for “the least of our brothers and sisters.” We ask that everyone give One Dollar as they leave mass on the weekend of the “big game” - February 3rd & 4th. All proceeds will benefit the Back Mountain Food Bank.

Attention! All children age 5 and up!

MOVIE NIGHT
Featuring: “CARS 3”
Saturday, January 20th at 7:00pm
Father Sammons Hall
Adult Supervision is provided!
Parents may drop children off or stay and watch the movie too!
Bring your sleeping bag and pillow.
We’ll supply the refreshments!!
*Children under (5) are welcome, but must be accompanied by an adult.

Worship
The Celebration of the Eucharist
Mon. 9:00AM Eva Rae Straub; Kate & Mike Warnagiris
Tue. 9:00AM NO 9:00 AM MASS
Wed. 9:00AM Ann Balavage (Birthday); Jim & Chris Balavage
Thu. 9:00AM Ed Kupstas; Lisa Kane
Fri. 9:00AM Eugenia DeRose; Family
Sat. 5:00PM Raymond Sillup; Florence Bryan
Sun. 7:30AM Emil Hohol (Anniv.); Wife, Veronica Hohol
9:00AM Richard Orlowski (Anniv.); Dan & Betty Levitsky
11:00AM Michael J. O’Brien; Pat & Diane

In Memoriam
The Eucharistic Wine consecrated at our masses on the weekend of January 13 & 14 is donated in loving memory of son, Edward by Marie Kruska.

WEEKEND MASS CELEBRANTS
January 20-21, 2018
Saturday 5:00PM—Fr. Paisley
7:30AM—Fr. Paisley
9:00AM—Fr. Albosta
11:00AM—Fr. Albosta

Dear Reverend Paisley,
Ruth’s Place, a Program of Volunteers of America of Pennsylvania, would like to graciously thank the parishioners of St. Therese’s for the generous donation of gift cards for our clients. Ruth’s Place helps women change their lives. As a commitment to you, Ruth’s Place will continue to provide emergency shelter, case management, group services and resources to women experiencing homelessness within Luzerne County.
Thank you for your ongoing support.
Sincerely,
Kristen Topolski
Director of Programming, Wilkes-Barre

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Kristen Topolski
Director of Programming, Wilkes-Barre
Commitment of Treasure

“Give to the Most High God, as God has given to you, generously, according to your means, for the Lord is one who always repays, and God will give back to you sevenfold.”

Sirach 35: 9-10

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</table>

Dear St. Therese’s Church Parishioners,

Thank you for your generosity in supporting the children of our community by providing gifts this holiday season. Your act of kindness has created an exciting and joyful holiday for the children involved with our agency.

We sincerely wish you a Happy Holiday and Wonderful New Year!

The Staff of Luzerne County Children and Youth Services

The Catholic Charismatic Renewal will be celebrating a Regional Prayer Meeting on Monday, January 29th, at 7:30 pm, and ALL ARE WELCOME to attend. The meeting will be held at Queen of Apostles Hall, 715 Hawthorne St., Avoca. There will be praise and worship with our combined music ministry, a witness by Tom Gentry, and a teaching by Karen McLain. The evening is being hosted by Burning Bush Prayer Group of Scranton, and refreshments will be served. Please come and join in the celebration of the Love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit!!
This is to honor the day of grace when

Ava Adams  
Jack Antinnes  
Hunter Bisulca  
Ava Blazes  
Sara Bonomo  
Lucy Brunn  
Max Bryk  
Justin Camoni  
Ariana Crothers  
Ethan DeRosa  
Madeline DeSanto  
Zane Drezek  
Abriella Fugok  
Talan Geskey  
James Gibbons, Jr.  
Jonah Gottlieb  
Layla Gover  
Benjamin Graham  
Connor Herman  
Robert Hernandez  
Cailynn Hivish  
Ava Hoang  
Tyler Janosov  
Ava Jones  
Colm Jordan  
Owen Josuweit  
Drew Klinetob  
Marco Lenza  
Ava Grace Medico  
Jeffrey Metz  
Mitchell Onzik  
Teagan Orrson  
Jonah Pasquini  
Hayden Romeo  
Caden Sakulich  
Kendall Schineller  
McAuley Somers  
Luciano Stephens  
Katherine Straka  
Brian Welby  
Aubriella Wojnarski  
Grace Zimmerman  
Ryan Zimmerman  
Bryce Zoranski

members of the Church of Saint Therese’s in Shavertown, PA
will receive the Sacrament of First Reconciliation
January 20, 2018

Let us keep these children in our prayers as they make their preparations for the Sacrament.