



The Faith Community of

ST. THERESE OF LISIEUX

CATHOLIC CHURCH



2020 91st STREET
KENOSHA, WI 53143
(262) 694-4695

VISIT US AT OUR
PARISH WEBSITE:
www.st-therese-kenosha.org

OUR PARISH MISSION

We are a welcoming Christian family committed to Catholic values, responding to the call of Christ revealed in the diversity of human need. We practice a conscious, living, active faith in a community whose source of strength is the Eucharist.

Miraculous Prayer to the Little Flower

O Little flower of Jesus, ever consoling troubled souls with heavenly graces, in our unfailing intercessions I place my confident trust. From the heart of our Divine Savior, petition the blessings of which I stand in greatest need.....Shower upon me your promised roses of virtue and grace, Dear St. Therese, so that swiftly advancing in sanctity and perfect love of neighbor, I may someday receive the crown of life eternal.

Amen

3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



"Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men." - Mt 4:19

The Miraculous Medal & the Conversion of Alphonse Ratisbonne

by Antonella Di Piazza, FKMI (*The Mission of the Immaculata*, Jan. 2020, e-publication)



In January of 1842 Alphonse Ratisbonne, a young Jew from Strasbourg who was engaged to be married, was traveling throughout Europe. He stopped in Rome and visited Baron Théodore de Bussières. Ratisbonne had been raised away from religion and claimed not even to believe in God nor to have ever opened a book about religion. And yet, he reluctantly accepted a Miraculous Medal from his devout Catholic friend Baron de Bussières, a convert from Protestantism. The Baron simply asked Alphonse to indulge him in a “harmless test,” that is, to carry the medal of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Alphonse Ratisbonne, in his own account, confessed, “At first I wanted to burst out laughing and shrug it all off, but then it occurred to me that the scene would make a good story to be told in the memories of my trip. So I decided to accept the medal, which was placed around my neck. When I had it on my chest, I burst into a loud laughter and said: ‘Oh! Oh! Now I am a Catholic, Apostolic, Roman.’ Baron de Bussières said: ‘Now, we will need to complete the test. It consists in reciting morning and evening the *Memorare*, a very short prayer and most effective with the Virgin Mary. It was composed by St. Bernard.’” Ratisbonne knew nothing about the prayer, but admitted, “Since I did not attach great importance to the whole thing, I promised I would recite the short prayer.”

The two men parted. Ratisbonne spent the evening at the theater, forgetting about the medal and the prayer. Before Ratisbonne left Rome he and the Baron visited Christian sites together and ended up discussing religious topics. Ratisbonne couldn't restrain himself from mocking even the most serious things, but the Baron “seemed unperturbed.... He went so far as to speak in these terms: ‘Despite your anger, I am sure that sooner or later you will become Catholic, because deep in your person there is that natural and sound judgment which assures me that you will let yourself be enlightened by God, even if He has to send one of His angels from heaven.’” Little did Ratisbonne know that the Lady etched on the little medal would “set out” to meet him on a Roman winter day. And so it happened.

On January 20, 1842, Ratisbonne casually met with Protestant friends in a café. Upon leaving, he came across the carriage of Théodore de Bussières, who in turn invited him to take a walk. As they approached the church of Sant'Andrea delle Fratte, the Baron excused himself, saying he needed to attend to a matter there. A dear friend had died and the funeral was to be held in that church. Ratisbonne, instead of waiting outside, decided to walk in and visit the church. “After I crossed the church... I suddenly felt a restlessness and saw some kind of veil in front of me. It seemed to me that the whole church had plunged into darkness, except for a chapel. It was as if all the light converged there. I turned my eyes toward the chapel from which that dazzling light came. Within it, on the altar, I saw the Blessed Virgin Mary: standing, live, grand, majestic, beautiful, and full of mercy, her bearing similar to the one on the effigy on the Miraculous Medal. At the sight, I fell on my knees where I stood. I tried to lift my eyes up to the Holy Virgin several times, but respect and a dazzling brightness forced me to look down. That did not prevent me, however, from seeing the light radiating from the apparition. I focused my gaze on her hands and saw in them an expression of forgiveness and mercy. In the presence of the Blessed Virgin, although she said no words to me, I realized the horror of the situation I was in, the wickedness of sin, the beauty of the Catholic religion; *in a word, I understood everything.*”

Upon his return, Théodore de Bussières found him kneeling with his head leaning on the rail of the chapel in which the Virgin Mary had appeared, flooded with tears. Alphonse Ratisbonne reported what had happened and requested to undergo preparation for Baptism. He was baptized shortly after. His whole life turned around. He later discerned his call to the priesthood, which eventually led him to found the Congregation of Our Lady of Sion. Most fittingly, his resting place is now in Ein Karem, the little town where Mary went “in haste” to visit Elizabeth and Zachariah.

Note: The Miraculous Medal was given by Our Lady to St. Catherine Labouré in 1830, when Mary appeared to her as she does on the medal: with her foot over the head of the serpent and the words “*O Mary conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee*” (front side), and an M beneath the cross with the Hearts of Jesus and Mary beneath the M (back side). Our Lady told St. Catherine to have a medal struck as she appeared, and promised that “All those who wear it will receive great graces, especially if they wear it around their necks. I shall bestow many graces on those who will wear it with faith.” Let's not only wear faithfully it as a reminder of our consecration to Our Lady, but also use every opportunity to introduce her to others by offering it as a gift to those we encounter.

Fr. Campbell's Wednesday morning 6 am Men's Bible Study: 6am in the meeting room of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel School. Bring a Bible & Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC). We study the upcoming Sunday Scriptures.

PRAY for the SICK in our PARISH, and visit them if possible: Jan Petrin, Diana Sauter, Josephine Gombar, Germaine Brennan, Gerry Buhnerkempe, Sue Kratowicz, Rebecca Dugan, Maria Miller, Pat Ware, William Wasurick, Mary Jo Koski, Phyllis Giovannoni and Daniel Lenegar. If anyone knows of any other sick persons in our parish, please call the rectory 262-694-4695.

Holy Name Society will have a meeting on **Sun., Jan. 26** after the 8:30 Mass in the hall. All men of the parish are invited.

FORMED a program which gives our Parishioners free access to many Catholic Programs and movies.

Want to create a new FORMED account with your parish or group?

1. Visit FORMED.org
2. Click Sign Up
3. Select "I Belong to a Parish or Organization"
4. Find your parish by name or zip
5. Enter your email—and you're in!

Blessing of Candles: Next Sunday, Feb. 2 is the **Feast of the Presentation of the Lord**, also known as **Candlemas Day**. At weekend Masses candles for use in the home will be blessed and made available to parishioners; an offering of \$5.00 is requested. These candles should be used when a priest or extraordinary minister of Holy Communion brings the Holy Eucharist to a person's home. It is customary to have a white table cloth, a crucifix and two blessed candles on the table. These candles can also be used during threatening weather when the family comes together to pray. Also, next weekend after Masses Fr. Campbell will **bless throats**, as well as on Monday, the Feast of Saint Blasé.

Parish Support

Weekend of January 19, 2020

\$3,560.81

Budgeted weekly need...	\$4,327.00
Weekly offertory	\$3,560.81
Over/Under budget	\$(766.19)
Plan YTD	\$112,500.00
Actual	\$125,872.00
Excess (6 months)	\$13,372.00

Four-Part Study to be led by Fr. Campbell on book *The Marian Option: God's Solution to a Civilization in Crisis*: Beginning on Tuesday, Jan. 28, at St. Therese Church, Fr. Campbell will lead a four-part study on the book *The Marian Option: God's Solution to a Civilization in Crisis*, by Dr. Carrie Gress. As the world descends into chaos, many options have been presented to deal with Christian persecution & cultural decadence. Dr. Gress shares with us why turning to Our Blessed Mother is the option that God has given us in these times of social & moral confusion and disorder. Tuesday evenings: Jan. 28, Feb. 4, Feb. 11 and Feb. 18, 7- 8:30 pm. Book is available for purchase at Holy Family Catholic Bookstore for \$20.

First Communion Fashion Show – held by St. Therese Church & Holy Family Catholic Bookstore

Sunday, February 16th @ 1pm

We need Volunteers as Bakers, Servers, Greeters and Ushers. Please Sign up in the Lobby.

Questions? Call 262.331.4734

PARISH-WIDE SURVEY coming: St. Therese Parish will be participating in a parish-wide survey about discipleship conducted by the Catholic Leadership Institute. **Please help us by participating in this 10-15 minute survey.** The survey will be available **beginning Feb. 23 through March 23**, and can be accessed **online**

at www.disciplemakerindex.com; one must select the Archdiocese Milwaukee and our parish to take the survey.

The survey will ask you to reflect on your own spiritual growth and enable you to provide feedback on our parish's efforts to help you deepen your relationship with Christ. All responses will be confidential and the parish will only receive information and publish results about the community as whole. We are trying to get the highest response rate possible. This information will help Fr. Campbell and Fr. McDermott and our parish pastoral council as we plan for the future and try to help everyone in our parish to be authentic disciples of Christ.

If you don't use the computer or have online access you can complete the survey with a **paper (hard) copy**. Beginning Feb. 23, paper copies will be available at the entrances of the church after weekend and daily Masses, or you can obtain a paper copy at the parish office. Completed surveys on paper should be turned in at the parish office.

We will receive the results of the survey this spring/summer at which time we will share what we have learned with the entire parish.

Thank you for helping with this important project!

MASS INTENTIONS for the Week

Monday, January 27

8:00 AM † Mary Ann Sopata

Tuesday, January 28

8:00 AM Fr. Marcin Mankowski (Wanta Family)

Wednesday, January 29

5:45 PM † Thomas & Anita Peltier (Wanta Family)

Thursday, January 30

8:00 AM † No Mass

Friday, January 31

8:00 AM † Thomas & Anita Peltier (Wanta Family)

Saturday, February 1

4:00 PM † Pat Roach (Jim Roach)

Sunday, February 2

8:30 AM † For Members of the Parish

10:30 AM † Mike Kelsey (Friend)

**Readings for the Week of
January 26, 2020**

Sunday: Is 8:23—9:3/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14 [1a]/1 Cor 1:10-13, 17/Mt 4:12-23 or 4:12-17

Monday: 2 Sm 5:1-7, 10/Ps 89:20, 21-22, 25-26 [25a]/Mk 3:22-30

Tuesday: 2 Sm 6:12b-15, 17-19/Ps 24:7, 8, 9, 10 [8]/Mk 3:31-35

Wednesday: 2 Sm 7:4-17/Ps 89: 4-5, 27-28, 29-30 [29a]/Mk 4:1-20

Thursday: 2 Sm 7:18-19, 24-29/Ps 132:1-2, 3-5, 11, 12, 13-14 [Lk 1:32b]/Mk 4:21-25

Friday: 2 Sm 11:1-4a, 5-10a, 13-17/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6a, 6bcd-7, 10-11 [cf. 3a]/Mk 4:26-34

Saturday: 2 Sm 12:1-7a, 10-17/Ps 51:12-13, 14-15, 16-17 [12a]/Mk 4:35-41

Next Sunday: Mal 3:1-4/Ps 24:7, 8, 9, 10 [10b]/Heb 2:14-18/Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22-32

PARISH OFFICE HOURS:

**Monday through Thursday 7:30 am to 2:45 pm
Closed Friday**

Please submit bulletin announcements in writing to the Parish Office or e-mail to valang@tds.net by 9:00 AM Thursday of the week before publication.

PRIVACY LAWS: Please notify the Parish Office if you or a family member is in the hospital, nursing home, hospice, etc. With the new privacy laws, medical institutions will not call unless you ask them to notify the Parish. If you would like a home visit, please call the Parish Office or Homebound Ministry.

Parish Directory

Weekend Masses	Saturday Evening	4:00 PM
	Sunday Morning	8:30 & 10:30 AM
Weekday Masses	Monday, Tuesday & Friday	8:00 AM
	Wednesday	5:45 PM
	No 8:00 AM Mass on Thursday or Saturday	
Holy Day Masses	Please consult Sunday bulletin.	
Confessions	Saturday	3:00 to 3:45 PM
	Sunday	8:00 to 8:15, 10:00 to 10:15 AM
First Fridays	Eucharistic Adoration: 8:30 AM Friday to 6:00 AM Saturday	
Mother of Perpetual Help Devotions (Follow the Wednesday 5:45 PM Mass)		
Parish Telephones	Parish Office	262-694-4695
	Fax	262-694-7284
	Rel. Ed. Coord.	262-705-9097
Liturgical Musician	Jan Sleyster	262-331-4734
Sacristan	Jim Lauzon	262-945-1855

All Saints Catholic School 262-925-4000
St. Joseph Catholic Academy 262-654-8651

Parish Mailing Address 2020 91st Street • Kenosha, WI 53143
Fr. Campbell FrCampbell@olmckenosha.org
Fr. McDermott mcdermottrt@aol.com
E-mail & Bulletin E-mail valang@tds.net
Parish Web Site www.st-therese-kenosha.org
K-6 Rel. Ed. Coord. beth.sturino@wi.rr.com
7-12 Rel. Ed. Coord. heatherschweitzer04@gmail.com
Heather Schweitzer 262-914-2288

Parish Staff

Pastor.....Rev. Fr. Dwight P. Campbell, S.T.D.
Shared Associate Pastor.....Rev. Fr. Robert T. McDermott
Rel. Ed. Coord.....Beth Sturino
Liturgical Musician.....Jan Sleyster
Parish Secretary & Bulletin Editor.....Mary E. Vestal

Parish Pastoral Council

Robert Beales, Trustee Treasurer Kristen Kelly
Jim Lauzon, Trustee Secretary Ray Irving
Paul Gillespie, Chairman Patricia Soens
Claudia Volpentesta, Vice-Chairman Jerome Pudelek
Rita Van Guyse, Secretary

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) Adults or children interested in baptism, reception into the Catholic Church, Confirmation and/or First Communion, please contact the Parish Office.

Baptism Please call the Parish Office to arrange for Baptism. Those who wish to have a child baptized must be attending Sunday Mass regularly for at least four months.

Marriage Please call the Pastor at least six months in advance to make arrangements. Couples who are sharing the same abode will be asked to live separately prior to their marriage.

Home Visitation Anyone unable to attend Mass because of sickness/old age, contact the Parish Office.

Estate Planning Please keep St. Therese in mind when planning your estate. This is a wonderful gift that will last many years.