



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
[https://www.facebook.com/
st.therese.kenosha/](https://www.facebook.com/st.therese.kenosha/)

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 con-
soling troubled souls with heavenly
graces, in our unflinching interces-
sions 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*

THE HOLY FAMILY



The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom;
and the favor of God was upon him. - Lk 2:40

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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December 31, 2023 The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

**THE HOLY FAMILY OF NAZARETH:
THE PERFECT EXAMPLE AND SCHOOL
OF ALL CHRISTIAN FAMILIES**

Homily: Pope St. Paul VI Feast of the Holy Family

The home of Nazareth is the school where we begin to understand the life of Jesus – the school of the Gospel.

The first lesson we learn here is to look, to listen, to meditate and penetrate the meaning – at once so deep and so mysterious – of this very simple, very humble and very beautiful manifestation of the Son of God. Perhaps we learn, even imperceptibly, the lesson of imitation.

Here we learn the method which will permit us to understand who Christ is. Here above all is made clear the importance of taking into account the general picture of his life among us, with its varied background of place, of time, of customs, of language, of religious practices – in fact, everything Jesus made use of to reveal himself to the world. Here everything is eloquent, all has a meaning.

Here, in this school, one learns why it is necessary to have a spiritual rule of life, if one wishes to follow the teaching of the Gospel and become a disciple of Christ.

How gladly would I become a child again, and go to school once more in this humble and sublime school of Nazareth: close to Mary, I wish I could make a fresh start at learning the true science of life and the higher wisdom of divine truths.

But I am only a passing pilgrim. I must renounce this desire to pursue in this home my still incomplete education in the understanding of the Gospel. I will not go on my way however without having gathered – hurriedly, it is true, and as if wanting to escape notice – some brief lessons from Nazareth.

First, then, a lesson of silence. May esteem for silence, that admirable and indispensable condition of mind, revive in us, besieged as we are by so many uplifted voices, the general noise and uproar, in our seething and over-sensitized modern life.

May the silence of Nazareth teach us recollection, inwardness, the disposition to listen to good inspirations and the teachings of true masters. May it teach us the need for and the value of preparation, of study, of meditation, of personal inner life, of the prayer which God alone sees in secret.

Next, there is a lesson on family life. May Nazareth teach us what family life is, its communion of love, its austere and simple beauty, and its sacred and inviolable character. Let us learn from Nazareth that the formation received at home is gentle and irreplaceable. Let us learn the prime importance of the role of the family in the social order.

Finally, there is a lesson of work. Nazareth, home of the ‘Carpenter’s Son’, in you I would choose to understand and proclaim the severe and redeeming law of human work; here I would restore the awareness of the nobility of work; and reaffirm that work cannot be an end in itself, but that its freedom and its excellence derive, over and above its economic worth, from the value of those for whose sake it is undertaken.

And here at Nazareth, to conclude, I want to greet all the workers of the world, holding up to them their great pattern, their brother who is God. He is the prophet of all their just causes, Christ our Lord.



Eucharistic Holy Hour to bring in the New Year: **10-11pm Sunday Dec. 31, Mt. Carmel.** Brief celebration to follow.

The **MARIAN HOUR** with Fr. Campbell **WSFI 88.5 FM & also on 750AM** every 2nd & 4th Wednesday. Next program: **Wed. Jan, 10, 2pm.**



PRAY for the SICK in our PARISH, and visit them if possible: William Wasurick, Mary Jo Koski, Florence Klappa, Daniel Lenegar, Jennifer Johnson, Laurie Smith, Jean Ammendola, Maria Koble, Bart & Aileen Hafferkamp, Billie Knutsen, Richard & Kathleen Bertola, Lawrence W. Klein Sr., Diana Sauter, Michelle Jenewein, Randy Bonn, Jim Lauzon, Betty Burt, Betty Campbell. Call rectory for sick persons 694-4695.



Friday Eucharistic Adoration: Friday adoration begins after 8am Mass, closes w/Benediction at 5pm. **First Friday** adoration **continues to Saturday 6am.**



FASHION SHOW - Featuring First Communion Dresses & Veils provided by Holy Family Catholic Bookstore. Bring your Daughters, Granddaughters & Goddaughters! Refreshments will be served, and admission is free. It will be held on **Sunday, January 28th at 1:00** in the church hall. For more info., call 262-697-0333 or go to www.holyfamilycatholicbookstore.com

The **St Therese Holy Name Society** will be having a **Super Bowl Italian beef fundraiser on February 11.** Enjoy a taste of our famous Italian beef from our summer festival. A dinner for 4 includes Italian beef, buns, chips, salad, and cookies. Cost is \$45 with additional beef available for purchase. Deadline for ordering is January 28. See the St Therese website for order info.

Christian Women's Circle next mtg is **Tues., Jan. 9th, at 9 a.m.** Join us to meet new friends & learn about opportunities to support St. Therese, our community, and one another. Childcare available. Kindly let us know how many kids to expect (764-1864).

A Cause for Confusion & Grave Scandal:

Pope Francis publishes norms for clergy to 'bless' homosexual couples

On Monday, Dec. 18, Pope Francis, through the Dicastery for the Doctrine of the Faith, headed by Cardinal Victor Fernández, issued a document that permits the blessing of same sex couples, as well as couples in "irregular situations" (i.e., living together outside of marriage and/or in adulterous relationships), in contradiction to the perennial teaching of the Church which prohibits the blessing of sinful relationships.

Just two years ago, in 2021, the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith stated clearly that the Church does not have "power to give the blessing to unions of persons of the same sex," and that it is "not licit to impart a blessing on relationships, or partnerships, even stable, that involve sexual activity outside of marriage (i.e., outside the indissoluble union of a man and a woman open in itself to the transmission of life), as is the case of the unions between persons of the same sex."

Cardinal Fernández, in explaining the new document to *LifeSiteNews* on Dec. 18, 2023, said that "the homosexual *union* is not blessed, because it [the Church] has the clear definition of marriage which is a union between a male and female open to new life." Rather, the document only allows for the *persons* in same-sex unions (or in irregular situations) to receive a blessing. Fernández also said that such blessings could be bestowed "without officially validating their [the couple's] status or changing in any way the Church's perennial teaching on marriage"; but admitted that a blessing "that could confuse and not make clear about this reality is not good for the Church."

But confusion over such blessings is precisely what will happen; for blessing homosexual couples will be *interpreted* by many in society in general and even by many within the Catholic Church, as *validating these relationships and the sexual actions that take place within them* – which are "acts of grave depravity" and which "under no circumstances can be approved" (CCC 2357), for they are sins that "cry to heaven" (CCC 1867). In addition to causing **confusion**, such blessings will result **grave scandal**, which is contrary to authentic charity, which always must be exercised in accordance with truth.

If a same-sex couple were to approach me and ask that I bless them, I would have to refuse, because I know that to bestow such a blessing would be *perceived* as blessing not only these two persons, but *the relationship* as well. The same would be true if a same-sex couple with children were to ask me for a blessing. To bestow a blessing on a same-sex couple with the notion, "I am blessing only the persons, but not the bond/relationship," would be disingenuous, because I know that I would be blessing them *as a couple* (or *as a "family"*); in fact, I would be a liar, and a murderer – of souls (cf. *Jn* 8:44), for I would be *affirming* them in their sin. The bestowal of such blessings is, in reality, an attack upon the family, the fundamental cell of society, because the family finds its very origin in marriage.

A truly pastoral, and compassionate response to a request for a blessing by a same-sex couple would be to call them, gently and charitably, but clearly and firmly, to repentance: to embrace a chaste life (to which *every* human being is called), then urge that they separate if they are living together (which itself is scandalous), and be reconciled to God and the Church through a sincere confession of their sins, through which they will experience true peace of mind, heart and soul, and find authentic happiness as well.

Finally, instead of blessing the couple, tell them, "I will pray for you, that God grant you strength to do His will, and embrace a holy, chaste and pure life."

On this beautiful Feast of the Holy Family, let us pray to Jesus, Mary and Joseph, that they protect the institutions of marriage and the family from all insidious attacks upon it. **Fr. Campbell**

MASS INTENTIONS for the Week

Monday, January 1 Solemnity Mary Mother of God
(not obligatory Holy Day this year bc falls on Monday but we can honor Mary on this first day of the New Year under her most glorious title, Mother of God)

9:00 AM Health of John Stancato (Judy Lange)

Tuesday, January 2

8:00 AM † Beverly Fiorini

Wednesday, January 3

5:45 PM † Theresa Valetti

Thursday, January 4 8:00 AM † No Mass

Friday, January 5

8:00 AM Deceased/Living members of Martin Family

Saturday, January 6

4:00 PM † Theresa Valetti † Pat Roach

Sunday, January 7 Solemnity Epiphany of the Lord

8:30 AM † Joseph Skalla

10:30 AM † For Members of the Parish

Saints & Readings:

Week of December 31, 2023

Sunday: The Holy Family; New Year's Eve, Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or Gn 15:1-6; 21:1-3/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 or Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17 or Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19/Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22, 39-40

Monday: Mary, The Holy Mother of God, New Year's Day, World Day of Peace, Nm 6:22-27/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 (2a)/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21

Tuesday: Sts. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors of the Church, 1 Jn 2:22-28/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/Jn 1:19-28

Wednesday: The Most Holy Name of Jesus, 1 Jn 2:29—3:6/Ps 98:1, 3cd-4, 5-6/Jn 1:29-34

Thursday: St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious, 1 Jn 3:7-10/Ps 98:1, 7-8, 9/Jn 1:35-42

Friday: St. John Neumann, Bishop, 1 Jn 3:11-21/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5/Jn 1:43-51

Saturday: St. André Bessette, Religious, 1 Jn 5:5-13/Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20/Mk 1:7-11 or Lk 3:23-38 or 3:23, 31-34, 36, 38

Next Sunday: The Epiphany of the Lord, Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 (see 11)/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12

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 4:00 PM
	Sunday	
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	262-764-0083
Beth Sturino	Rel. Ed. Coor K-5	262-705-9097
Heather Schweitzer	Rel. Ed Coor 6-12	262-914-2288
Liturgical Musician	Jan Sleyster	262-331-4734

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	mcdermotttr@aol.com	
E-mail & Bulletin E-mail	office@st-therese-kenosha.org	
Parish Web Site	www.st-therese-kenosha.org	
K-5 Rel. Ed. Coor	beth.sturino@wi.rr.com	
6-12 Rel. Ed. Coor	religioueducation@olmckenosha.org	

Parish Staff

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

Parish Pastoral Council

Robert Beales, Trustee Treasurer	Joyce Hui
Claudia Volpentesta, Trustee Secretary	Nancy January
Paul Gillespie, Chairman	Patricia Soens
Jim Lauzon	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.