

DO NOT BE AFRAID
You are worth more than many
SPARROWS



St. Theresa
of the Infant Jesus
CATHOLIC CHURCH

Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time

June 21, 2026

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, JUNE 20

4 PM †Mary June Fuller; †Juan Carlos Vargas; Poor Souls; Jim & Jan Owens 50th Anniversary

SUNDAY, JUNE 21

8:15 AM Philip Schnur

10:45 AM Pro Populo

1:45 PM Poor Souls

MONDAY, JUNE 22

8:15 AM Greg Krog

TUESDAY, JUNE 23

5:30 PM Michael Valdejuli (Birthday)

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 24

8:15 AM Timothy McNamara; Poor Souls; Benefactors of St. Joseph's Projects; In Honor of St. Joseph; Conversion of Hayao Miyazaki

THURSDAY, JUNE 25

8:15 AM †Pat Collins

FRIDAY, JUNE 26

8:15 AM Chris Sowell

SATURDAY, JUNE 27

8:15 AM Matthew Schnur

4 PM †Mary June Fuller; †Juan Carlos Vargas; Poor Souls; †Edward Patrick Dunn; Lifsey's 50th Anniversary

SUNDAY, JUNE 28

8:15 AM Caleb (Paul) Knight

10:45 AM Pro Populo

1:45 PM †Rosa Helena Aldana de Suarez

SANCTUARY CANDLES

2 weeks: \$20 & 1 week: \$10

†Juan Carlos Coss Vargas

Miriam & Aaliyah

Families of the Parish

Living and Deceased Fathers

St. Joseph's Projects Benefactors

Benefactors of the Parish

PRAYER INTENTIONS

Please pray for

Fr. Frank Phillips, C.R.

Amparo Estrada

Whit & Carolyn Bell

Jeanine Hilbert

Larry Colbert, Jr.

Gloria Dorian

Consider enthroning the Sacred Heart in your homes this month if you have not already done so!



Beginning July 8th - July 16th

\$50 Donation to St. Theresa Catholic Church "Altar Society" to enroll a loved one in the Novena of Masses

LittleFlowerMemphis.org/novena

Donations may be made either by check (payable to St. Theresa Church and write Altar Society in the memo), in the collection with the filled-in slip (available at Our Lady's Altar), or online via the Novena link (please select Altar Society when donating).

Enrollments due by Sunday, July 5th

2026-2027 PRE REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!

St. Theresa Parish Religious Education (PRE) is now accepting applications for 2026-2027 classes for ages 6-18. Registration packets are available in the vestibule and the **deadline to register is August 3rd**. Classes will again take place between the 8:15 and 10:45 AM Sunday Masses. For a list of topics taught in each grade, please see the PRE bulletin board in the vestibule or the course description in the registration packet. The Diocesan requirement is two years of parish religious education before a child may receive a Sacrament. Whether your child is homeschooled, attends private, public, or Catholic school, **he or she must be registered for PRE in order to receive a Sacrament**. This is a great opportunity to help strengthen the faith of your children alongside their peers in the parish. Any questions, please email Laurie at Laurie.Lewandowski@stlfchurch.cdom.org




May St. Joseph protect our children as he protected Our Lord, and may he intercede for them to become holy men and women of faith.

El Programa de Educación Religiosa (PRE) de la Parroquia Santa Teresita ya está aceptando solicitudes para las clases del ciclo 2026-2027, dirigidas a jóvenes de 6 a 18 años. Los paquetes de inscripción están disponibles en el vestíbulo, y la fecha límite para inscribirse es el 3 de Agosto. Las clases se llevarán a cabo entre las Misas dominicales de las 8:15 a.m. y las 10:45 a.m. El requisito diocesano establece que los niños deben haber cursado dos años de educación religiosa parroquial antes de poder recibir un Sacramento. Independientemente de si su hijo recibe educación en casa o asiste a una escuela privada, pública o católica, es indispensable que esté inscrito en el programa PRE para poder recibir un Sacramento. Esta es una excelente oportunidad para ayudar a fortalecer la fe de sus hijos, compartiendo esta experiencia junto a sus compañeros de la parroquia.

JOIN US, on the following **Sundays, 9:30-10:30**, in the Adult Faith Formation room to learn more about these pivotal players in the history of Catholicism:

July 19th – St. Benedict

Aug. 16th – Bartolomé de las Casas



There are no great physiological changes in the father at birth as in the mother, but he undergoes profound psychological changes. Maternity hospitals find it more difficult, at times, to deal with the peripatetic fathers than with the laboring mothers. The fact is that the consciousness of Fatherhood does something to one's mental vision of the world; as a priest, hearing himself called "Father" after his ordination, summons in his soul a world of souls to whom his spiritual responsibility is committed...

Love does not mean merely the joy to possess; it means also the will to see a new life born out of that love. The realization that he has passed on the torch of life, and can see it flowering before his eyes in "his own image and likeness," is the basic reason why a man when he has become a father is no longer just a man. His is the supreme moment of self-recovery, the resigning of a lease on life; it is time's best moment, when a man feels, within himself, the shimmering refraction of the Eternal Joy of an Eternal Father begetting an Eternal Son, and saying to Him in the noontide of Paternity: "Thou art My Son; I have begotten thee this day." (Psalm 2:7) As the Son is the Lumen de Lumine, the Light of the Light, so in the newborn infant is "flesh of his flesh, bone of his bone."

- from Ven. Fulton Sheen's "Three to Get Married"

Wishing all our fathers a

Happy
Father's
Day

Fathers' Spiritual Bouquet

IN HONOR OF

Rev. Father Gonzalez, Michael Valldejuli, Benito Romeu, Jorge Romeu, Timothy McNamara, Fr. Frank Phillips, Jimmy Van Epps, Michael Van Epps, David Van Epps, Whitten Bell, Brian Lewandowski, Jim Demere, Mike Leger, Joseph McPherson, Eric Che Lamey, Gabino Martinez, Phil Halpin, Raymond Oltremari, Greg Oltremari, Juan Arellano, Porfirio Cruz, Jose Cruz, Jesus Cruz, Pablo Cruz, Marcos Rosas, Salvador Ramos, Raul Maldonado, Eusebio Plaza, Manuel Plaza, David Plaza, Felix Cruz, Blas Plaza, Michael Foster, Charles Swain Jr., Stanislaw Marczyk, Bernard Zawada, Bogdan Zawada, Jarek Wasilkowski, Benny Pierotti, Deacon Bill Lifsey, Jeffrey Cochiolo, Ivan Baricevic, Andrew Cabigao, Benjamin Graunke, Edward Cabigao, Raymond Cabigao, Rutilio Savado, Rudy Hernandez, Isaac Fernandez, Manuel Longoria, Ivan Miranda, Rafael Campos Hernandez, Eric Johnson, Fr. Edward Fisher, Porfirio Espinoza, Jose Cruz Espinoza, Martin Espinoza, Padre Eduardo Medina, Roberto Longoria, Adalberto Meza, Matthew Morrison, Rodolfo Estrada, Mark Sauser, Jesse Ketchum, Scott Russell, Andy Poppelreiter, Drew Poppelreiter, Perry Poole, Leonardo Estrada, Oscar Arroyos, Rafael Hernandez, Jeff Butler, Edward Doyle, Joey Steven, Stephen Hyde, Sean Neel, Larry C. Christley, Ronald Eberley, Chuck Marple Sr., Leonard Isinger, James Marple, Chuck Marple, Mark Isinger, Fr. Caesarius Marple, OSB, Jeffery Marple, Luke Marple, Paul Isinger, Ben Isinger, Michael Fisk, Tony Lujemwa, Azael B. Villalobos, Loveday Nwobilor

IN MEMORY OF

Rolando Gonzalez, Eladio Gonzalez, Narciso Lopez, Allen Keller, Lino Vazquez Colon, Lawrence Capozzi, Norman Lewandowski, Jim Styne, McCarthy Demere, Nelson Firmin, Louis Franceschini Sr, Louis Franceschini Jr, Pete Giannini, William McPherson, David Hamblin, Juan Gabriel Cruz, Enrique Gomez, Filomon Plaza, Francisco Cruz, Porfirio Cruz, Jose Cruz, Stanislaw Marczyk, Jan Marczyk, Antoni Zawada, Jerzy Zawada, Bronislaw Minko, Michal Marczyk, Stanisla Kisly, John Ford Canale Sr., Milton Burke Lifsey, John Ford Canale Jr., Deacon Randy Canale, Warren S. Canale, John Poppelreiter, Zackary Trace, Ed Barrett, Paul Hammond, Lucien Gorroy, Pedro Cabigao, Ramon Ordon, Gonzalo Suarez, Jim Ryan, Bill Sauser, Timoteo Ramos Valtierra, Ernesto Frias, Alejandro Ramos Martinez, Jeff Tarver, Don Oakes, Randall Toups, Jesse Moore, Alton Derouen, Otto Oakes, Harry Troups, Guadalupe Hernandez, Jose Salazar, Carlos Estrada, Manuel Vazquez, Richard Dye, Joseph Roochesfani, Jim Doyle, Larry G. Christley, Bob Neel, Wendelyn Blatz, Charles Marple, Paul Isinger II, Azael B. Villalobos, Dr. James Louis Alston, Jr., All Fathers of the Gonzalez/Llanes & Romeu/Vasallo Families, All Forgotten Fathers in Purgatory

St. Joseph, pray for them!





Bringing Christ to the Cuban people, helping rebuild the Church, and sowing hope

Our St. Martin Society (which helps provide for the needs of our parishioners and the broader community) is partnering with the Missionaries of the Community of St. Martin in Cuba to help provide medications for the relief of the people on the island, now undergoing immense struggles to meet basic needs. We are currently collecting the following medications for their pharmacy:

Omeprazol
Multivitamins
Prenatal
Vitamin C
Vitamin D
Vitamin E

Ibuprofen
Eye drops
Hydrogen Peroxide
Rubbing Alcohol
Band-aids
Bandaging

Antiseptics
Neosporin
Aloe Vera
Acetaminophen
Aspirin
Nonsteroidal Anti-inflammatory
Drugs (NSAIDs)

In Cuba, official pharmacies are almost empty. Medicines, when they can be found, circulate on the black market at prices far beyond the reach of most families. Faced with this dramatic reality, it is not uncommon for serious illnesses — including some cancers — to be treated with simple plants or a few aspirin tablets. In this context, the parish pharmacies of the Community of St. Martin on the island have become vital places for the local population. They survive solely thanks to donations sent from France and the United States, transported by volunteers and friends of the Mission during their trips. Each box of medicine that arrives represents a real treasure for the sick and their families. In Placetás (their main parish), the parish pharmacy now manages a database of over 3,000 patients. Since 2024, it has benefited from new stock management software, allowing for more rigorous tracking and organization. Thanks to these tools and to the generosity of donors, a more efficient and fair service can be offered — even though the needs remain enormous. You can help our joint efforts by providing to our parish St. Martin Society, or visiting their website and contributing directly.



a typical pharmacy in Cuba, with mostly bare shelves



The Community and lay volunteers outside their parish in Placetás, Cuba

To learn more, visit: missioncuba.org/en

Since 2006, the Community of Saint Martin, a community of priests and deacons who live their ministry in common (founded in 1976 in France), has been present in Cuba, responding to the call of the bishops. As the Community's first foundation outside Europe, their mission now extends over two centers, in the heart of the island, within the dioceses of Santa Clara and Cienfuegos. The Placetas Mission includes the three parishes of Placetas, Fomento, and Cabaiguán, while the Cienfuegos Mission serves the cathedral, the Saint Joseph Sanctuary in Paraíso, and the Castillo de Jagua.

In a country marked by economic exhaustion, mass emigration, daily instability, and the erosion of institutions, the Cuban Church suffers from a severe shortage of priests and deacons, as well as from a lack of human and material resources. Sent on mission, they choose to remain alongside those who stay — especially the poorest and most isolated. Their presence aims to be a discreet but real sign of God's faithfulness, strengthening hope where it seems to falter.

Cuba is not only a wounded country to be rebuilt, but also — and above all — a people to love, whom they have been accompanying for twenty years. Day by day, priests, religious sisters, volunteers, and lay faithful devote themselves to serving the young and the most vulnerable, with the humble means available to them. Drawing from the richness of parish life, numerous social, educational, and charitable projects have also emerged: religious education, tutoring, daycare centers, boarding facilities, soup kitchens, a pharmacy, a home for the elderly, and most importantly, a spiritual home where they can be nourished by the Sacraments and a rich liturgical life.

Through all these initiatives, they live and bear witness to the Gospel: "Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me." The mission is fragile — particularly in material terms. Power cuts, shortages, inflation, disorientation, and lack of prospects for the youth are daily realities. And yet, joy remains, and faith is passed on. In the midst of difficulties, the Church — though suffering — continues to serve, deeply rooted in hope.

Cuba is a true mission land, where Christ calls us to work within His Church, wounded by ideologies hostile to her mission: to form free men and women united with Him, who is the Way, the Truth, and the Life. Through Mission Cuba, the Gospel is lived in its radical simplicity: to bring Christ to the Cuban people, to help rebuild the Church, and to bear witness to hope. May Our Lady of Charity, Patroness of Cuba, pray for them!





ANXIETY, which is closely related to being afraid, has become the sickness of the century and it is, they say, one of the principal causes of the large number of heart attacks. This spread of anxiety seems connected with the fact that, compared with the past, we have many more forms of economic insurance, life insurance, many more means of preventing illness and delaying death.

The cause of this anxiety is the diminishing—if not the complete disappearance—in our society of the holy fear of God. “No one fears God anymore!” We say this sometimes jokingly but it contains a tragic truth. The more that the fear of God diminishes, the more we become afraid of our fellow men!

It is easy to understand why this is the case. Forgetting God, we place all our confidence in the things of this world, that is, in the things that Christ says “*thieves can steal and moths consume*”—uncertain things that can disappear from one moment to the next, that time (and moths!) inexorably consume, things that everyone is after and which therefore cause competition and rivalry (the famous “mimetic desire” of which René Girard speaks), things that need to be defended with clenched teeth and, sometimes, with a gun in hand.

The decline in fear of God, rather than liberating us from worry, gets us more entangled in worry. Look at what happens in the relationship between children and parents in our society. Fathers no longer fear God and children no longer fear fathers! The fear of God is reflected in and analogous to the reverential fear of children for parents. The Bible continually associates the two things. But does the lack of this reverential fear for their parents make the children and young people of today more free and self-confident? We know well that the exact opposite is true.

The way out of the crisis is to rediscover the necessity and the beauty of the holy fear of God. Jesus explains to us in the Gospel that the constant companion of the fear of God is confidence in God. “*Are not two sparrows sold for a small coin? Yet not one of them falls to the ground without your Father's knowledge. Even all the hairs of your head are counted. So do not be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows!*”

God does not want us to be afraid of him but to have confidence in him. It is the contrary of that emperor who said: “*Oderint dum metuant*”—“*Let them hate me so long as they are afraid of me!*” Our earthly fathers must imitate God; they must not make us afraid of them but have confidence in them. It is in this way that respect is nourished: admiration, confidence, everything that falls under the name of “holy fear.”

- Cardinal Raniero Cantalamessa, OFM Cap, Preacher Emeritus of the Papal Household

DEAR SPOUSES, WE INVITE YOU TO THE

Sts. Louis & Zélie Martin

COUPLES MASS & DINNER



SAT | 11 JULY | 5 PM

RSVP online:
t.ly/lfcouplesdinner

The Vocations Committee would like to honor Married Couples with a free, elegant served dinner on Saturday, July 11th!

The patrons of this joyous occasion are Sts. Louis and Zélie Martin, the holy parents of our parish patroness. They were the first married couple canonized together. We will begin the evening with a Mass in their honor, a blessing with their first-class relics (brought directly from Lisieux, France by parishioners last year!), and follow with an elegant served dinner. If child care is needed, please let us know so that we can plan accordingly. The Mass is open to all, but the dinner is only for those who RSVP before the spots close. Don't miss out on this beloved parish tradition honoring the holy marriages that help build up our parish family.

Weekly Offerings (Sunday, June 7, 2026)

General: \$3,965.35	YTD: \$166,468.70
Building: \$460	YTD: \$20,676.78
St. Martin: \$310	YTD: \$34,912.24
St. Joseph's Projects (restoring our church)	YTD: \$115,960.56

Second Collection today is for St. Joseph's Projects

SPACE WILL BE LIMITED, PLEASE RSVP ONLINE BY SATURDAY, JUNE 27TH!

HOLY MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday- 4:00 PM *English at Blessed Sacrament*
 Sunday- 8:15 AM; 10:45 AM;
 1:45 PM *Spanish at Blessed Sacrament*
 Monday & Wednesday-Saturday- 8:15 AM
 Tuesday- 5:30 PM
 First Friday- 8:15 AM & 6:00 PM
 Holy Days- *See Bulletin or Call the Office for Times*

ADORATION & DEVOTIONS

Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament:

Thursday - 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM
 First Fridays - 9:00 AM - 5:30 PM

Holy Rosary & Divine Mercy Chaplet:

Monday - Friday - 3:00 PM
 Saturday - 3:00 PM at *Blessed Sacrament*
 Sunday - Rosary before 8:15 & 10:45 Masses

Little Flower Novena:

Thursday after Mass & after evening Benediction

SACRAMENTS

Baptisms - *Parents of children to be baptized must be registered parishioners for at least 6 months and complete a baptism course*

Marriages - *Couples must contact Pastor 6 months prior to the desired wedding date.*

Sick Calls - *Anytime. Please let us know if someone is hospitalized or needs a home visit.*

Order of Christian Initiation of Adults - *please contact the DRE for information on becoming Catholic.*

Office Hours: Open 3 days a week: Monday, Wednesday & Thursday from 9AM - 3PM

Blessed Sacrament - 2564 Hale Avenue, Memphis, TN 38112

Little Flower Church is the first Catholic Church in Tennessee dedicated to St. Theresa of the Infant Jesus, the Little Flower of Jesus. Living the Little Way since 1930.

CONFESSIONS

Monday -Friday- 3:30 PM - 4:00 PM
 Thursday - 3:30 PM - 4:00 PM & 5:30 PM - 6:45 PM
 Saturday - 7:45 - 8:00 AM
 3:30 PM - 3:45 PM at *Blessed Sacrament*
 Sunday - 10:00 AM - 10:30 AM

STAFF

Rev. Fr. Yoelvis A. Gonzalez - *Pastor*
 father.gonzalez@stlfchurch.cdom.org

Rev. Mr. Bill Lifsey - *Deacon*
 bill.lifsey@stlfchurch.cdom.org

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Cover Artwork: Bartolomé Esteban Murillo, *The Holy Family with a Little Bird*, 1650



CHILDREN ARE A GIFT

We are blessed to have this gift at our Parish! Children are also a **RESPONSIBILITY**. If your little one gets rowdy or disruptive, please be a responsible parent so others can pray and commune with the Lord undisturbed. Thank you for being considerate.



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M+P MEMPHIS PLANNING + WEALTH

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Holy Souls Memorial
Requiescant In Pace

- Msgr. James Whitfield
- Msgr. Joseph Leppert
- Deceased Priests, Parishioners, Alumni, and Benefactors of our Parishes
- Rolando Gonzalez
- Eladio Gonzalez
- Esperanza Llanes
- Allen & Armantine Keller
- Neal Holcomb Family
- Luigi & Maria A. Pierotti Family
- Louis & Dolly Pierantoni

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