St. Theresa
of the Infant Jesus
Catholic Church

YOU ARE PETER
AND UPON THIS
ROCK
I WILL BUILD MY
CHURCH

Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time *August 23, 2026*

1644 Jackson Avenue, Memphis, TN 38107 | 901-276-1412 | sttherese@stlfchurch.cdom.org | LittleFlowerMemphis.org

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, AUGUST 22
4 PM ✝Mary June Fuller; ✝Bill Germann; Poor Souls; Most Forgotten Souls in Purgatory; ✝Joan Farino

SUNDAY, AUGUST 23
8:15 AM Barrientos/Montalvo lineage
10:45 AM Pro Populo
1:45 PM Poor Souls

MONDAY, AUGUST 24
8:15 AM Barrientos/Montalvo lineage

TUESDAY, AUGUST 25
5:30 PM Intentions of Fr. Gonzalez

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 26
8:15 AM Intentions of Manuel Viera; Poor Souls; Benefactors of St. Joseph's Projects; ✝Kelly McHugh; ✝Rufina Soberanes Telles

THURSDAY, AUGUST 27
8:15 AM ✝William Bessent

FRIDAY, AUGUST 28
8:15 AM Laurie Lewandowski

SATURDAY, AUGUST 29
8:15 AM ✝Rolando Gonzalez Llanes
4 PM ✝Mary June Fuller; ✝Bill Germann; Poor Souls; ✝Joan Farino; Lifsey Anniver.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 30
8:15 AM Ronald & Beatriz McNamara
10:45 AM Pro Populo
1:45 PM Poor Souls

SANCTUARY CANDLES

2 weeks: $20 & 1 week: $10

✝Juan Carlos Coss Vargas
Families of the Parish
Benefactors of the Parish
Reparation to the Blessed Sacrament
St. Joseph's Projects Benefactors
✝Bill Germann

PRAYER INTENTIONS

Kitty Gordon
Fr. Frank Phillips, C.R.
Amparo Estrada
Whit & Carolyn Bell
Jeanine Hilbert
Larry Colbert, Jr.
Gloria Dorian
Marie-Jo Hammond

Enroll yourself or a loved one in the Little Flower Novena of Masses. St. Theresa promised solemnly, "Upon my death, I will send down from heaven a shower of roses; I will spend my heaven doing good upon earth." She has kept her promise, quickly known as a miracle worker and a great intercessor, dubbed by Pope St. Pius X, "the greatest saint of modern times." Canonized in 1925, she was named a Doctor of the Church in 1997 by Pope St. John Paul II, for her doctrine on the little way of spiritual childhood. May she intercede for our loved ones and us, continuing to shower roses of graces upon us, through the power of the Holy Face of Jesus. *Submit your enrollments online or to the office by Sunday, September 20th.* Please fill in all the required fields on the sign up sheets or online and kindly send in your donation of $50 or more either by check (payable to St. Theresa Church and write Little Flower Society in the memo), in the collection with the filled-in slip (available by the statue of St. Theresa), or online via the link below (please select Little Flower Society when donating). LittleFlowerMemphis.org/novena

I HAVE LOVED O LORD

THE BEAUTY OF YOUR HOUSE
-Psalm 26:8

Sponsor a hand-painted flower in honor or memory of a loved one or in thanksgiving to God and help support the continued work of beautifying the sanctuary of our Little Flower Church.
If you are interested in helping us complete the adornment of our sanctuary, please contact the office to sponsor a legacy of art and beauty for the House of God.
All contributions will be commemorated by memorial plaques.

Weekly Offerings (8/9/2026)

General: $3,715.37	YTD: $16,788.62
Building: $1,120	YTD: $2,917
St. Martin: $1,524	YTD: $4,117
St. Joseph's Projects *(restoring our church)*	YTD: $20,719.20

Second Collection today is for HVAC & Roof Loan Payment

ST. JOSEPH'S PROJECTS UPDATE

Since mid-February, we have been requesting and receiving commitments for Phase 2 of the St. Joseph Projects. Thank you to those who have committed and, especially, those who have made sacrificial commitments. Unfortunately, as of June 15th, we only have 67% Participation. If you have yet to commit, PLEASE DO SO AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. We have completed the first part of phase two (installation of bells in the tower) and plan to start the second part (restoration of the windows) next Spring. We are not yet sure if the third part will be possible. Please participate! These projects help protect our patrimony and ensure that the House of the Lord is a beautiful and fitting temple for His glory.

100% PARTICIPATION IS THE GOAL, regardless of how much you can give.

Masses are regularly celebrated for the benefactors of St. Joseph's Projects.

BLESSING OF SACRAMENTALS

Father will be blessing sacramentals after the 8:15 AM Mass THIS COMING SATURDAY AUGUST 29TH.
The next blessing after that will be October 31st.

MOTHER of SORROWS

Mass Guild at Little Flower

Attend and see if there be any sorrow like unto my sorrow

Beginning September 15th

we invite you to spiritually stand with Mary at the foot of the Cross through our Mother of Sorrows Mass Guild.

Your intentions will be lifted to the Altar and placed at the foot of the Cross through the intercession of the Queen of Martyrs. As a Guild member, you will be remembered by name—living and deceased—with your intentions carried to Our Mother of Sorrows each month. The first of these Masses will be held on the Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows at 6 PM and every 3rd Saturday of the month after that.

You may enroll yourself or a loved one for a year (12 Masses for a donation of $50), or perpetually (a Mass every month in perpetuity for $500). Donations are made to the St. Theresa Altar Society and support the ongoing efforts to beautify our historic parish through artistic painting and restoration, making it a haven of beauty, devotion, and Catholic tradition.

JOIN THE ST. THERESA CHILDREN'S CHOIR

The Children's Choir is an opportunity for kids to learn the basics of Gregorian chant, vocal technique, and music reading skills. No prior musical experience is needed, but basic reading skills are required.

The Choir will have the opportunity to sing the 6pm Christmas Eve Mass at Blessed Sacrament.

Deadline to register is September 9th.

Classes start September 16th.

Ages 7-16

Registration fee $50 (capped at $100 per family of 2 or more children)

THE word *Cephas* meant "rock"; we do not get the full flavor of it in English, because Peter, the proper name, is not the same as our word "rock." The words were identical in the Aramaic which Our Blessed Lord spoke, just as they are in French, where the proper name *Pierre* is the same as *pierre*, or rock. In Scripture, whenever God changed the name of a man, it was to raise him to a higher dignity and role in the community to which he belonged. Our Lord might have been saying to Peter, "you are impulsive and fickle and unreliable, but one day all this will be changed; you will be called by a name that no one would dare give you now—Rock Man." Whenever he is called "Simon" in the Gospels, it is a reminder of the Apostle's uninspired and unregenerate humanity; for example, when he was sleeping in the garden, Our Blessed Lord addressed him: *Simon, art thou sleeping?* (Mark 14:37)...His very faults endear him...

He was impulsive to an extreme degree, guided more by feeling than by reason. He wanted to walk on the waters and, given the power, became frightened and screamed in fear—he a man of the sea. He was an emphatic man, swinging swords, cursing, protesting against the Savior washing his feet; though named head of the Church, he had none of the ambition of James and John. But through the power of his Divine Master this impetuous man, as fluid as water, was turned into the rock on which Christ built His Church. The Divine Savior constantly linked Himself verbally with His Heavenly Father; but the only human being He ever united with Himself and spoke of Himself and that one as "we," was Peter. From that day on, Peter and his successors have always used "we" to indicate the unity between the invisible Head of the Church and its visible head. But this same Peter, who is always tempting Our Lord from the Cross, proves to be a rock of fidelity, for later on in his life the constant theme of his letters was the Cross of Christ.

from Venerable Fulton Sheen's *The Life of Christ*

LITTLE FLOWER CHRISTMAS CARDS

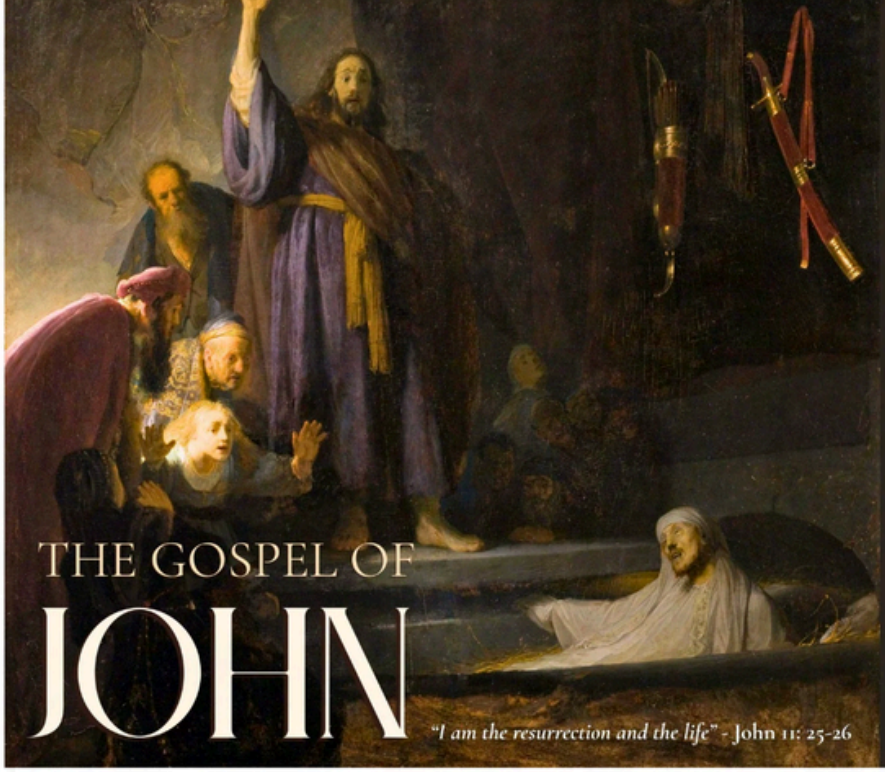
We are again taking submissions for our annual parish Christmas Card. The proceeds from the sale of these cards benefit the St. Martin Society for those most in need during the holiday season. We are looking for work that is focused on the Nativity of the Lord with a *Little Flower* flair. The setting may be our parish church, our patron saints may be featured, etc. We would love your creative ideas.

The last two years have featured the talents of some adult parishioners, but we also welcome the creativity of the kids of the parish, especially those who are artistically gifted (the artwork should be recognizably Christmas, something that can be sent out in the mail to family, friends, or acquaintances). Submissions may be emailed to the office. Compositions should fit on a standard card layout.

We would love to sell them at our Annual Parish Fundraiser Potluck in October, so submissions sent in by the end of September will be considered first. Selections will be made by a local artist.

A NEW SUNDAY ADULT FAITH FORMATION CLASS

STARTING SEPTEMBER 13



JOIN US Sundays beginning Sept 13 in the Adult Faith Formation room from 9:30-10:30 AM for a brand new Scripture Study with Dr. John Bergsma

Dive into the most profound of the Gospels with Dr. Bergsma as he unpacks the rich symbolism and deep theology of St. John the Evangelist. From the Word made flesh to the "I Am" sayings, John's Gospel reveals Jesus' divinity and draws us into the mystery of His love. This course will help you see familiar passages with fresh eyes and enter more fully into the life-giving relationship Christ offers to His disciples.

A complete schedule of this 8-part series will be handed out at the first class. No materials necessary. Just bring your Bible!

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

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*
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Brandy Oltremari - *Bookkeeper*
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Emma Nwobilor - *Director of Sacred Music*
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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.

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

Cover Artwork:
Philippe de Champaigne,
Christ Delivering the Keys to St. Peter, c. 1663.

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.

*Ads help pay for your parish bulletin while helping your business grow! Please consider patronizing our partners. Contact the parish office to place an ad: **sttherese@stlfchurch.cdom.org***

CHUCK HUTTON TOYOTA
Tell them Fr. Gonzalez sent you for a great deal on your next car

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