

St. Theresa
of the Infant Jesus
CATHOLIC CHURCH

*I am your
Sister
and your
Friend
I shall always
be watching
over you.*

External Solemnity of St. Theresa of the Infant Jesus

October 4, 2026

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

Roma
1931-3

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3

4 PM †Mary June Fuller; †Bill Germann;
Poor Souls; †Joan Farino; Unborn Children

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4

8:15 AM Sanctification of LF Parish

10:45 AM Pro Populo

1:45 PM Priestly Vocations from LF Parish

MONDAY, OCTOBER 5

8:15 AM Ella Adams

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6

5:30 PM Intentions of Fr. Gonzalez

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7

8:15 AM Benefactors of S. Joseph Projects;
Poor Souls; Unborn Children; Intentions
of Tom Mobley; Noah Crosley's Intentions

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8

8:15 AM †Vincent Valdez

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9

8:15 AM Poor Souls

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10

~~8:15 AM~~ Barrientos/Montalvo lineage

~~4 PM~~ **NO MASS**

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11

8:15 AM Barrientos/Montalvo lineage

10:45 AM Pro Populo

1:45 PM Poor Souls

****No Mass on Saturday, October 10,
including the 4 PM Vigil at Blessed
Sacrament. All Mass intentions will be
fulfilled.***

SANCTUARY CANDLES

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

†Juan Carlos Coss Vargas

Families of the Parish

Reparation to the Blessed Sacrament

Graces through St. Theresa

St. Joseph's Projects Benefactors

†Gene Brady

PRAYER INTENTIONS

Maria del Carmen Romeu Vasallo

Kitty Gordon

Fr. Frank Phillips, C.R.

Jeanine Hilbert

Larry Colbert, Jr.

ALTAR FLOWERS

In Honor of

Our Mother

of Sorrows

STARTING THIS WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 7

THE BOOK OF PSALMS

WEDNESDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY WITH FR. GONZALEZ

6 PM IN THE ADULT FAITH FORMATION ROOM

Explore the rich spiritual poetry of the Psalms, the prayer book of Christ and His Church. Journey through songs of praise, lament, thanksgiving, repentance, trust, and hope, from the depths of sorrow to the heights of joy. Learn how to use the psalms to unite your joys and sorrows to His, to seek the Father's mercy, and to await with hope the coming of His Kingdom.

DOLLARS FOR DIAPERS

BIRTHRIGHT OF MEMPHIS



HELP US REACH OUR GOAL
OF **FUNDING 100 PACKS**
OF DIAPERS FOR BIRTHRIGHT
BABIES BY OCTOBER 31ST

**A \$10 donation will provide a pack of
50 diapers to a mom in need.**



Weekly Offerings (9/20/2026)

General: \$3,305.32 YTD: \$37,888.66

Building: \$242 YTD: \$5,321

St. Martin: \$815 YTD: \$7,119

St. Joseph's Projects YTD: \$45,846.30

(restoring our church)

*Second Collection today is for the
Little Flower Society*

**Father will be giving a talk for Oblate Day at
Clear Creek Abbey in Oklahoma on Saturday,
October 10th. - No 8:15 am or 4 pm Masses.**

**The Office will be closed for Columbus Day
on Monday, October 12th.**

THE LITTLE FLOWER OF JESUS AND THE LITURGY



HAVE never known a pupil to come from a Benedictine home of education without having imbibed at least some liturgical spirit. The little Therese Martin received her education entirely at the Benedictine Abbey of Lisieux, and it would seem an interesting study to see how deeply it left this mark upon her soul.

Even before she went to school at all, we find her being formed to a spiritual life based directly upon the liturgy. Of the days when she was still too much of a baby to be taken to Sunday Mass, she tells the following story, showing her interest already awakened in the ceremonies of our holy mother the Church:

"I was still too small for the long Sunday services, so Mama stayed at home to look after me. On these occasions I was very quiet and good, walking all the while on tiptoe; but as soon as I heard the door open, there was a tremendous outburst of joy. Rushing to my dear little sister, I would exclaim: 'O Celine! quick, give me the blessed bread!'"

One day she did not bring any. What was to be done? I could not do without it, for I looked upon this little feast as my Mass. A bright idea struck me, and I said: 'You have no blessed bread, well then, make some.' Celine immediately opened the cupboard, took out the bread, cut off a tiny bit, and after saying a Hail Mary over it with due solemnity, she triumphantly presented it to me. Making the Sign of the Cross, I ate it most religiously and fancied it tasted exactly like the real blessed bread."

She is alluding to the French custom of blessing bread at the parochial Mass and distributing it to the faithful.

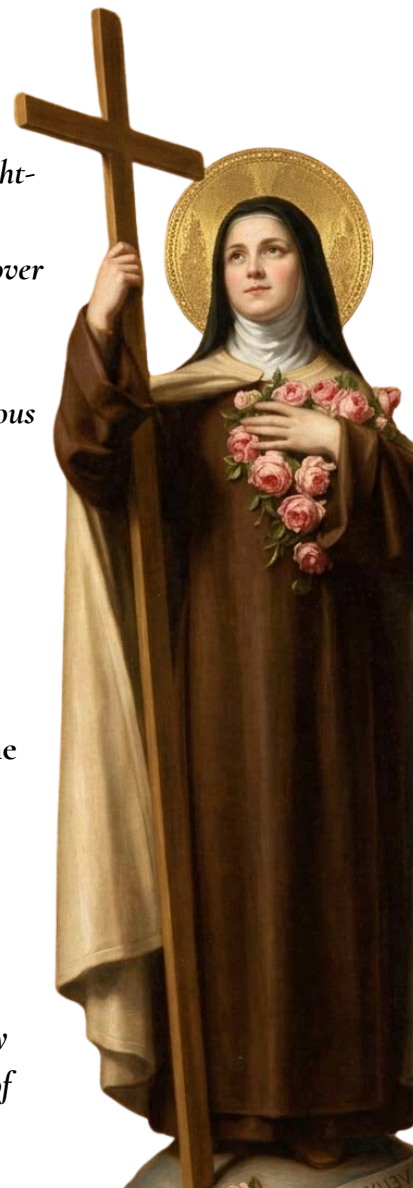
She early valued the blessings which our Mother provides for so many things we have and use. After her first confession she says:

"Finally I passed him my rosary to bless, and came out of the confessional feeling more light-hearted and happy than ever before. It was evening, as soon as I reached a street lamp, I paused, took the newly blessed rosary from my pocket, and examined it carefully, turning it over and over. 'What are you looking at, Therese dear?' asked Pauline. 'I am looking to see what a blessed rosary is like,' I answered"—and the reply caused her sister much merriment.

How she loved the feasts of the Church! Of them she wrote: "The feasts! What precious memories these simple words recall. I loved them; and you knew so well how to explain the mysteries hidden in each one. They were indeed a foretaste of heaven. Above all, I loved the processions of the Blessed Sacrament. What a joy it was to strew flowers in the path of God! But before letting them fall under His feet, I kissed them, threw them high up in the air, and never was I more happy than when I saw my rose petals touch the sacred Monstrance."

When one reads words like that, how one's heart aches for the thousands of small children in our cities as well as in our rural districts to whom this Wonder Book of the Feasts (the Liturgy of Mother Church) is entirely unknown; from whose lives this beauty is entirely shut out; whose meagre knowledge of their holy Faith presents it to their minds only under forms of tiresome obligations, and all but unmeaning ceremonies. What would it not mean to them if we could make the Sundays for them what they were to the little Therese! Of these Sundays, hear her speak:

"True, the great feasts came but seldom. Each week, however, brought one very dear to my heart—Sunday. What a glorious day! It was Almighty God's feast and the day of rest. First of all, the whole family went to High Mass.



...Those happy days which passed all too quickly, but also had their touch of melancholy! My joy lasted until Compline, but after that a feeling of sadness took possession of me. I longed for the never-ending Sabbath of our true home."

To how many of the little children in this vast country does the word Compline convey anything at all, I wonder?

The tiny child lulled to sleep on her father's knee listened each evening with pleasure to the few pages read aloud by one of her sisters from the *Liturgical Year*. There is an excellent English translation of this famous work. It was written by Dom Gueranger, Abbot of Solesmes. In heaven this holy Benedictine must number by thousands the souls who owe their attraction to the liturgy to his labours.

The little first communicant, making her retreat in the Benedictine Abbey, tastes already the joys of the Divine Office. She tells us:

"With what delight I followed the Divine Office, just as the nuns did!"

It was at Vespers on the feast of Pentecost that she made her final determination to speak to her father of her vocation for Carmel.

Later, in the Carmel, she said to Mother Mary Gonzaga, speaking of her prayer: *"Apart from the Divine Office, which in spite of my unworthiness is a daily joy, I have not the courage to search through books for beautiful prayers."*

She confided to her little mother that she thought no one could have had a greater desire than she had to say the Divine Office well. Especially did she rejoice when it was her turn to read alone and aloud the prayer of the day. She tells us she felt like the priest acting as mediator between God and man: *"How happy I was, and how careful to say the prayers out well and clearly!"*

I know not whether the little Theresa had learned Latin; if not, she had familiarized herself with the translation of the Psalms she said in choir, for in speaking of the Office she declared playfully that one verse she always recited with regret, namely, the verse at Sext which says: *"I have inclined my heart to do Thy justifications because of the reward."*

"I always hastened," she says, *"to assure the good God that this was not so."*

Even the words of the ordination service for a deacon were not unknown to her. In writing of her joy at touching the sacred vessels when made sacristan, she says: *"I rejoiced also in being able to touch the sacred vessels, and to prepare the altar linen on which our Lord was to be laid. I felt that I must increase in fervour, and often recalled these words addressed to a deacon: 'Be ye holy, ye who carry the vessels of the Lord.'"*

On one of the great days of her life, the day of her audience with Pope Leo XIII, she drew courage from the words of the Gospel for the day found in her Missal: *"In the Gospel for that day there occurred these consoling words: 'Fear not, little flock, for it hath pleased your Father to give you a kingdom.' My heart became filled with confidence."*

These few thoughts gathered from her life will fill us with confidence too—confidence that the work of the Liturgical Apostolate will surely find in the little Saint a powerful and interested advocate.

MOTHER MARY ELLERKER, O. S. D.

Duluth, Minn.



Join the
**MOTHER
of SORROWS**

**MASS
GUILD**

Guild members will be remembered by name—living or deceased—with intentions at the Foot of the Cross with Our Mother of Sorrows every 3rd Saturday of the month. Enrollments can be made at any time throughout the year. You may enroll yourself or a loved one for a year (12 Masses for a donation of \$50), or for 7 years (a Mass every month for 7 years for \$300).

Donations are made to the St. Theresa Altar Society and support the ongoing efforts to beautify our parish through artistic painting and restoration. A 5x7 card (above), featuring the face of the Sorrowful Mother from our Pieta, can be sent out to those enrolled in the guild. To enroll, visit:

littleflowermemphis.org/MassGuild



COME TO LEPPERT HALL
OCTOBER 11, 2026

LITTLE FLOWER FUNDRAISER FEAST

RAVIOLI & SPAGHETTI SUNDAY DINNER

DINNERS SERVED 10 AM TO 1 PM

\$18 PER DINNER
\$60 PER FAMILY (PARENTS & CHILDREN)
\$20 PER TAKE-OUT DINNER

INCLUDES RAVIOLI, SPAGHETTI, ITALIAN SPINACH, GARLIC BREAD, DRINK, AND DESSERT. BEER AND WINE AVAILABLE FOR CASH DONATION.

EACH PARISH FAMILY IS ASKED TO DONATE A DESSERT

DESSERTS CAN BE BROUGHT TO LEPPERT HALL ON SATURDAY, OCT. 10, BETWEEN 9 AM AND 2 PM, AND SUNDAY, OCT. 11, BEFORE EACH MASS.
DONATIONS OF WINE AND BEER CAN BE BROUGHT TO THE PARISH OFFICE.



Visit
ST-THERESA.COMMUNIBEE.CA
to bid online at our
**2026 LITTLE FLOWER
SILENT AUCTION**

September 27 – October 11

Dinner tickets and tamales pre-orders can also be placed online at the link above for our Fundraiser Feast next Sunday, October 11!



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
bill.lifsey@stlfchurch.cdom.org

Brandy Oltremari - Bookkeeper
bookkeeping@stlfchurch.cdom.org

Brian Lewandowski - Parish Business Manager
sttherese@stlfchurch.cdom.org

Laurie Lewandowski - Director of Religious Education (DRE)
laurie.lewandowski@stlf.cdom.org

Emma Nwobilor - Director of Sacred Music
emma.nwobilor@stlfchurch.cdom.org

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:
Ettore Ballerini,
Santa Teresa del Bambino Gesù,
1931-32.



Little Flower
Vanco



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PLANNING
+ WEALTH

Securities offered through LPL Financial, member FINRA / SIPC. Investment advice offered through Private Advisor Group, a Registered Investment Advisor. Private Advisor Group and Memphis Planning and Wealth are separate entities from LPL Financial.



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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Parishioner



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ESTATE PLANNING

Wills • Trusts • Business Succession

Jack Shelton, Attorney

Schedule a Consultation

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Serving Memphis & All Surrounding Counties

exp
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