

## ST. THERESA CATHOLIC CHURCH – Sunny Hills

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St. Theresa Parish Website: <http://sttheresa.ptdiocese.org>

**There is no higher dignity than to serve Christ.” - St. Ambrose**

**"Whoever finds his life will lose it,  
and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it."**



The parishioners of St. Theresa and Fr. Paul Moody welcome everyone as we gather to worship.

### Mass Times for The Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time and the Thirteenth Week of Ordinary Time.

July 1 Saturday Vigil Mass 5:00 pm  
Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Intention: + Antoni Szucko

July 2 Sunday Masses 9:00 am  
Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Intention: The Ciesla Family

**There will be no weekday Masses this week.**

July 8 Saturday Vigil Mass 5:00 pm  
Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Intention: + Helena Rokosz

July 9 Sunday Masses 9:00 am  
Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Intention: + Frank Biela



Thank you to Msgr. Francis for presiding at our weekend Masses for two months. Msgr. Francis graciously and cheerfully took on this extra work out of his love for the Parishioners of St. Theresa and his concern for a brother priest. Thank you also to Sr. Natalia and the Vestiarki Sisters who helped keep our parish going during this time period and for the understanding of our parishioners!

**"This is man's glory, to persevere in the service of God." – St. Irenaeus**



“ WE hold these Truths to be self-evident, that all Men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness...”



**Happy Birthday America!** July 4th is the day we celebrate our political independence from Great Britain. Two hundred forty-seven years have passed since then and we owe a debt of gratitude to the men and women who endured so many hardships and shed their blood to make this possible. Our Republic was founded on the principles of personal freedom and religious tolerance and has worked to preserve both in an ever-changing world. Our country has made mistakes, but it has learned from these mistakes, and is always looking for ways to improve the life of its citizens and the lives of people around the world.

**Prayer Requests:** We continue to pray for all of our parishioners who are sick and for the people who care for them. Please pray for all of the members of our Armed Forces and for all of our Law Enforcement Officers, especially Deputy Dakota Jarvis and Brian Paridon as they risk their lives to keep us safe.



There are special prayer requests for Mrs. Deborah Baker, Stanley and Jadwiga Kuc, Ralph Rowbotham, Jennifer Nason, Mrs. Maria Doniec, Bob and Sonia Burke, Joana Macijauskas, Mrs. Hella Tompkins, Mrs. Ann Ivers, Albina Vysniauskas, Brone and Vida Nakas, Dennis & Jean Sandfort, Maria Antoniewicz, Glen Zanetic, Mrs. Anna Jarzabek, Fr. Andrew Sosnowski, Robert Espinosa, Winifred & Steve Flowers, and Bruce Paridon. Please remember to pray each day for the souls in purgatory and for our fellow parishioners at St. Theresa.

**“Faith lifts the soul. Hope supports it. Experience says it must. And Love says let it be!”**  
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton



**New Fiscal Year:** July 1<sup>st</sup> marks the beginning of a new fiscal or accounting year for our Parish and Diocese. I would like to thank all of our parishioners and our guests for their generosity. Your generosity does not only consist of your financial gifts, but also includes all of your volunteer work for our Parish, and your concern and prayers for fellow parishioners, our Church, priests, and Bishop Wack.

It is also an appropriate time to recognize and thank our Finance Committee: Michael Peaden (Chairman), Frank Clark, Catherine Andrews, and Mary Clark (Secretary). In addition, our Offertory Counting team has done, and continues to do, outstanding and valuable work for St. Theresa. **All of these parishioners volunteer their time and expertise out of love for St. Theresa and its members.**



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY to Helena Ciesla who celebrates her birthday on July 8!**



**Offertory:** We thank our parishioners and guests for their continued generosity.

St. Theresa Parish	May 2023	May 2022	Total for This FY (July 2022 - May 2023)	Total for Prior FY (July 2021 - May 2022)
Offertory	\$ 7593	\$ 8693	\$ 84287	\$ 93152
CSA for 2023	Goal	Pledged	Received	
	<b>\$ 3385</b>	<b>\$ 7167</b>	<b>\$ 5647</b>	





**THE FAMILY AND THE KINGDOM:** Family ties are important but not absolute. Just as the child grows to maturity and human and spiritual autonomy, so his unique vocation which comes from God asserts itself more clearly and forcefully. Parents should respect this call and encourage their children to follow it. They must be convinced that the first vocation of the Christian is to *follow* Jesus: "He who loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and he who loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me."

Becoming a disciple of Jesus means accepting the invitation to belong to *God's family*, to live in conformity with His way of life: "For whoever does the will of my Father in

heaven is my brother, and sister, and mother." (CCC 2232 – 2233)

**Baptism in the Church:** From the very day of Pentecost the Church has celebrated and administered holy Baptism. Indeed St. Peter declares to the crowd astounded by his preaching: "Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit." The apostles and their collaborators offer Baptism to anyone who believed in Jesus: Jews, the God-fearing, pagans. Always, Baptism is seen as connected with faith: "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household," St. Paul declared to his jailer in Philippi. And the narrative continues, the jailer "was baptized at once, with all his family."

According to the Apostle Paul, the believer enters through Baptism into communion with Christ's death, is buried with him, and rises with him:

"Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life."

The baptized have "put on Christ." Through the Holy Spirit, Baptism is a bath that purifies, justifies, and sanctifies. (CCC 1226 – 1227)

**JUSTIFICATION:** The grace of the Holy Spirit has the power to justify us, that is, to cleanse us from our sins and to communicate to us "the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ" and through Baptism:

"But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him. For we know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. The death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves as dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus."

Through the power of the Holy Spirit we take part in Christ's Passion by dying to sin, and in his Resurrection by being born to a new life; we are members of his Body which is the Church, branches grafted onto the vine which is himself:

"[God] gave himself to us through his Spirit. By the participation of the Spirit, we become communicants in the divine nature. . . . For this reason, those in whom the Spirit dwells are divinized."

The first work of the grace of the Holy Spirit is *conversion*, effecting justification in accordance with Jesus' proclamation at the beginning of the Gospel: "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."<sup>3</sup>Moved by grace, man turns toward God and away from sin, thus accepting forgiveness and righteousness from on high. "Justification is not only the remission of sins, but also the sanctification and renewal of the interior man.

Justification *detaches man from sin* which contradicts the love of God, and purifies his heart of sin. Justification follows upon God's merciful initiative of offering forgiveness. It reconciles man with God. It frees from the enslavement to sin, and it heals. (CCC 1987 – 1990)

**"God had one son on earth without sin, but never one without suffering." – St. Augustine**