

## ST. THERESA CATHOLIC CHURCH – Sunny Hills

Mailing Address: 2071 Sunny Hills Blvd. Chipley, FL 32428

Church Office Ph. (850) 332– 3188    Emergency Ph. (850) 739 – 1934

Please remember to leave a message when you call our Office or Emergency lines.

Email: [moodyp@clergy.ptdiocese.org](mailto:moodyp@clergy.ptdiocese.org)

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

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

**“But blessed are your eyes, because they see,  
and your ears, because they hear.”**



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

### The Fifteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time and the Fifteenth Week of Ordinary Time.

July 15 Saturday Vigil Mass 5:00 pm  
Fifteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time

Intention: + Patrick Tompkins

July 16 Sunday Mass 9:00 am  
Fifteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time

Intention: Zofia Sikon

**There will be No Monday Morning Mass This Week**

July 20 Thursday Mass 8:00 am  
Fifteenth Week of Ordinary Time

Intention: + Betty Renza

July 21 Friday Mass 8:00 am  
Fifteenth Week of Ordinary Time

Intention: + Margaret Ciesla

July 22 Saturday Vigil Mass 5:00 pm  
Sixteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time

Intention: Hella & + Patrick Tompkins

July 23 Sunday Mass 9:00 am  
Sixteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time

Intention: + Tadeusz Rokosz

**“Store up in your minds, the Lord’s words which you receive, through your ears,  
for the Word of the Lord, is the nourishment of the mind ...  
Be careful, that the seed received through your ears, remains in your heart.”  
- St. Pope Gregory the Great**

**Ordinary Time:** Since we are in Ordinary time, there are some things you should keep in mind for our Liturgy of the Word during Mass. The first reading from the Old Testament shares a theme with the gospel reading (Year A – Matthew – of which we hear half of the total Gospel). The responsorial psalm is our reaction to the first reading using biblical language – usually from a psalm. The second reading is taken from one of four of St. Paul’s letters and does not share the same theme with the first reading and the gospel. One benefit to taking our missalettes home is that we can read the next week’s reading before we come to Mass and get a sense of the order of the readings and how they relate to our lives.

**Just a Reminder:** If you need to be anointed or need the sacrament of Reconciliation, please call our Office, and set up a time, or let Fr. Paul know in person.

**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.

**“Cultivate your vineyard together with Jesus. To you the task of removing stones and pulling up brambles. To Jesus, that of sowing, planting, cultivating and watering. But even in your work, it is still He who acts. Because, without Christ, you could do nothing at all.”  
- St Pio of Pietrelcina**

**Declining Offertory and Large Increase in Property and Liability Insurance for FY 23-24:**

The Offertory or weekend collections for St. Theresa declined by 10% from last year even though we have more people attending our weekend masses. This may be due to the challenging economic times we are living in.

Our Property and Liability Insurance has increased from \$12,000 for FY 22-23 to **\$28,500** for FY 23–24 (July 2023 – June 2024). This amount, just for insurance, is **33% of a whole year’s total offertory**. This increase has nothing to do with anything we have, or have not, done at St. Theresa. It is imposed on us by the staff in the Bishop’s Office.

We have paid the bill for this fiscal year. When our declining offertory income is added to the increases in everything St. Theresa uses – just as you are having to deal with - our financial situation becomes unsound and unsustainable over time. If things continue in this direction, in the not-to-distant future, we will be unable to pay all of our bills.

**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>\$ 6836</b>	<b>\$ 5436</b>	

I am incredibly grateful for the continuing generosity of the members and guests of our parish. I understand your financial contributions represent a sacrifice on your part for the good of our whole community. This is never out of my thoughts.

**Jesus Teaching through Parables:** Jesus' invitation to enter his kingdom comes in the form of



parables, a characteristic feature of his teaching. Through his parables he invites people to the feast of the kingdom, but he also asks for a radical choice: to gain the kingdom, one must give everything. Words are not enough, deeds are required. The parables are like mirrors for man: will he be hard soil or good earth for the word? What use has he made of the talents he has received? Jesus and the presence of the kingdom in this world are secretly at the heart of the parables. One must enter the kingdom, that is, become a disciple of Christ, in order to "know the secrets of the kingdom of heaven". For those who stay "outside", everything remains enigmatic. (CCC 546)

**Man: The Image of God:** "Christ, . . . in the very revelation of the mystery of the Father and of his love, makes man fully manifest to himself and brings to light his exalted vocation." It is in Christ, "the image of the invisible God," that man has been created "in the image and likeness" of the Creator. It is in Christ, Redeemer and Savior, that the divine image, disfigured in man by the first sin, has been restored to its original beauty and ennobled by the grace of God.

The divine image is present in every man. It shines forth in the communion of persons, in the likeness of the unity of the divine persons among themselves. Endowed with "a spiritual and immortal" soul, the human person is "the only creature on earth that God has willed for its own sake." From his conception, he is destined for eternal beatitude. The human person participates in the light and power of the divine Spirit. By his reason, he is capable of understanding the order of things established by the Creator. By free will, he is capable of directing himself toward his true good. He finds his perfection "in seeking and loving what is true and good."

By virtue of his soul and his spiritual powers of intellect and will, man is endowed with freedom, an "outstanding manifestation of the divine image." By his reason, man recognizes the voice of God which urges him "to do what is good and avoid what is evil." Everyone is obliged to follow this law, which makes itself heard in conscience and is fulfilled in the love of God and of neighbor. Living a moral life bears witness to the dignity of the person.

"Man, enticed by the Evil One, abused his freedom at the very beginning of history." He succumbed to temptation and did what was evil. He still desires the good, but his nature bears the wound of original sin. He is now inclined to evil and subject to error: Man is divided in himself. As a result, the whole life of men, both individual and social, shows itself to be a struggle, and a dramatic one, between good and evil, between light and darkness. By his Passion, Christ delivered us from Satan and from sin. He merited for us the new life in the Holy Spirit. His grace restores what sin had damaged in us.

He who believes in Christ becomes a son of God. This filial adoption transforms him by giving him the ability to follow the example of Christ. It makes him capable of acting rightly and doing good. In union with his Savior, the disciple attains the perfection of charity which is holiness. Having matured in grace, the moral life blossoms into eternal life in the glory of heaven. (CCC 1701-1709)



**“Breathe into me, Holy Spirit, that my thoughts may all be holy.**

**Move in me, Holy Spirit, that my work, too, may be holy.**

**Attract my heart, Holy Spirit, that I may love only what is holy.**

**Strengthen me, Holy Spirit, that I may defend all that is holy.**

**Protect me, Holy Spirit, that I may always be holy.”**

**(St. Augustine)**

**“Actions speak louder than words. Let your words teach and your actions speak.”  
- St. Anthony of Padua**

Domenico Fetti - Parable of the Sower (c. 1619)