ST. THERESA CATHOLIC CHURCH – Sunny Hills

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

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

Email: moodyp@clergy.ptdiocese.org

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

"Live for the Lord and die in the Lord."

"A man named John was sent from God.

He came for testimony, to testify to the light,
so that all might believe through him.

He was not the light, but came to testify to the light."



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

Mass Times for The Third Sunday of Advent and the Third Week of Advent.

December 16 Saturday Vigil Mass 5:00 pm Third Sunday of Advent

December 17 Sunday Mass 9:00 am Third Sunday of Advent

December 18 Monday Mass 8:00 am Advent Weekday

December 21 Thursday Mass 8:00 am Advent Weekday

December 22 Friday Adoration 7:00 am – 8:00 am Advent Weekday Mass 8:00 am

December 23 Saturday Vigil Mass 5:00 pm Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 24 Sunday Mass 9:00 am Fourth Sunday of Advent

Intention: The Derencius Family

Reader: Rose

Intention: + Albert & Frances Ciesla

Reader: Christina

Intention: + Hans & Marta Reiband

Intention: Chris Ciesla & Family

Intention: Zofia Sikon

Intention: Maria Antoniewicz

Reader: Veronica

Intention: + Frank Biela

Reader: Sal

Confessions: Confessions are heard up to 15 min before any Mass and by appointment.

Advent Confessions: On Monday December 18, the Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available from 5:00 until all have been heard. Confessions will be in the Church.

Christmas Mass Schedule - Holy Day of Obligation and our Sunday Obligation

Holy Day of Obligation: Monday, December 25 is a Holy Day of Obligation for the Nativity of the Lord. This year we have our Sunday Mass obligation *and* our Holy Day of Obligation for Christmas. Attending Mass on Christmas *does not* satisfy our Sunday Mass obligation as Catholics.

Sunday Mass Schedule Saturday December 23 5:00 pm Sunday Vigil Mass

Sunday December 24 9:00 am Sunday Mass

Christmas Mass Schedule: Midnight Christmas Mass

Monday December 25 9:00 am Christmas Mass

11:00 am Christmas Mass

The Solemnity of Mary, The Mother of God on Monday, January 1, 2024, *is not* a Holy Day of Obligation this year. We will have Mass on Monday January 1, 2024, at 8:00am.

"The season of Advent is like springtime in nature when everything is renewed and so is fresh and healthy. Advent is also meant to do this to us – to refresh us and make us healthy, to be able to receive Christ in whatever form he may come to us"

— St. Teresa of Calcutta

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 David Zurawska, Deputy Dakota Jarvis and Brian Paridon as they risk their lives to keep us safe.

There are special prayer requests for Cathy Andrews, 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 and Jean Sandfort, Maria Antoniewicz, Glen Zanetic, Mrs. Anna Jarzabek, 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.

"Open wide your door to the one who comes. Open your soul, throw open the depths of your heart to see the riches of simplicity, the treasures of peace, the sweetness of grace.

Open your heart and run to meet the Sun of eternal light that illuminates all men."

- St. Ambrose

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

St. Theresa Parish Offertory	Nov. 2023	Nov. 2022	Total for This FY (July 2023 – Nov. 2023)	Total for Prior FY (July 2022 – Nov. 2022)
	\$ 6596	\$ 5114	\$ 36901	\$ 39739
CSA for 2023	Goal	Pledged	Received	
	\$ 3385	\$ 6896	\$ 6521	

"Let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice." Although man can forget God or reject him, He never ceases to call every man to seek him, so as to find life and happiness. But this search for God demands of man every effort of intellect, a sound will, "an upright heart", as well as the witness of others who teach him to seek God. (CCC 30)

God is Love

In the course of its history, Israel was able to discover that God had only one reason to reveal himself to them, a single motive for choosing them from among all peoples as his special possession: his sheer gratuitous love. And thanks to the prophets Israel understood that it was again out of love that God never stopped saving them and pardoning their unfaithfulness and sins.

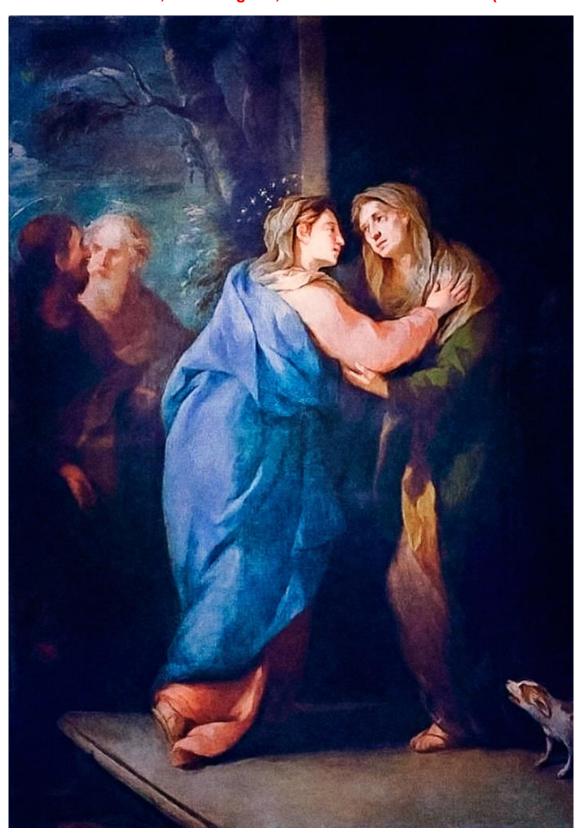
God's love for Israel is compared to a father's love for his son. His love for his people is stronger than a mother's for her children. God loves his people more than a bridegroom his beloved; his love

will be victorious over even the worst infidelities and will extend to his most precious gift: "God so loved the world that he gave his only Son."

God's love is "everlasting": "For the mountains may depart and the hills be removed, but my steadfast love shall not depart from you." Through Jeremiah, God declares to his people, "I have loved you with an everlasting love; therefore I have continued my faithfulness to you."

But St. John goes even further when he affirms that "God is love": God's very being is love. By sending his only Son and the Spirit of Love in the fullness of time, God has revealed his innermost secret: God himself is an eternal exchange of love, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and he has destined us to share in that exchange. (CCC 218-221)

"Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever." (Psalm 107:1)



"Man's maker was made man, that He, Ruler of the stars, might nurse at His mother's breast; that the Bread might hunger, the Fountain thirst, the Light sleep, the Way be tired on its journey; that the Truth might be accused of false witness, the Teacher be beaten with whips, the Foundation be suspended on wood; that Strength might grow weak; that the Healer might be wounded; that Life might die." – St. Augustine