

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

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

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

“So too, you also must be prepared, for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come.”



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

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

November 29 Saturday Vigil Mass 5:00 pm
First Sunday of Advent

Intention: Laura & Larry Arnold
Reader:

November 30 Sunday Mass 9:00 am
First Sunday of Advent

Intention: **+** Frank Biela
Reader: Veronica

December 1 Monday 8:00 am
Advent Weekday

Intention: Sr. Natalia Kwiatek

December 4 Thursday 8:00 am
Advent Weekday

Intention: **+** Frank Biela

December 5 Friday Adoration 7:00am to 8:00 am
Advent Weekday Mass 8:00 am

Intention: **+** Dolores M. Moody

December 6 Saturday Vigil Mass 5:00 pm
Second Sunday of Advent

Intention: Ed & Pamela Lang
Reader: Regina

December 7 Sunday Mass 9:00 am
Second Sunday of Advent

Intention: **+** Margaret Ciesla
Reader: Mark

“God walks into your soul with silent step. God comes to you more than you go to Him. Never will his coming be what you expect, and yet never will it disappoint. The more you respond to his gentle pressure, the greater will be your freedom.”

– Ven. Fulton Sheen

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, for all of our Law Enforcement Officers, especially Deputy David Zurawska, and firefighters, especially David Shepherd, as they risk their lives to keep us safe.



There are special prayer requests for Ruth Windholtz, Julie, Matas Baltus, Steve Bertrand, David Hilty, Brian Paridon, Caroline, Jess, Chris Andrews, Jessica Stephens, Janet Kaufman, Sr. Anna Szostek, Ed Lang, Paul Day, Alvera Seluga, Lidia Kraj, Larry Arnold, Susan & David Estes, Gerry Sott, Cathy Andrews, Stanley & Jadwiga Kuc, Ralph Rowbotham, Jennifer Nason, Mrs. Maria Doniec, Joana Maciauskas, Mrs. Ann Ivers, Vida Nakas, Maria Antoniewicz, Glen Zanetic, 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.

"Year passes after year silently; Christ's coming is ever nearer than it was. O that, as He comes nearer earth, we may approach nearer heaven!"

— St. John Henry Newman

The habitual difficulty in prayer is ***distraction***. It can affect words and their meaning in vocal prayer; it can concern, more profoundly, him to whom we are praying, in vocal prayer (liturgical or personal), meditation, and contemplative prayer. To set about hunting down distractions would be to fall into their trap, when all that is necessary is to turn back to our heart: for a distraction reveals to us what we are attached to, and this humble awareness before the Lord should awaken our preferential love for him and lead us resolutely to offer him our heart to be purified. Therein lies the battle, the choice of which master to serve. In positive terms, the battle against the possessive and dominating self requires vigilance and sobriety of heart.

When Jesus insists on ***vigilance***, he always relates it to himself, to his coming on the last day and every day: *today*. The bridegroom comes in the middle of the night; the light that must not be extinguished is that of faith: "Come,' my heart says, 'seek his face!'"

The most common yet most hidden temptation is our ***lack of faith***. It expresses itself less by declared incredulity than by our actual preferences. When we begin to pray, a thousand labors or cares thought to be urgent vie for priority; once again, it is the moment of truth for the heart: what is its real love? Sometimes we turn to the Lord as a last resort, but do we really believe he is? Sometimes we enlist the Lord as an ally, but our heart remains presumptuous. In each case, our lack of faith reveals that we do not yet share in the disposition of a humble heart: "Apart from me, you can do *nothing*." [CCC 2729-2730 & 2732]

"Take time to be aware that in the very midst of our busy preparations for the celebration of Christ's birth in ancient Bethlehem, Christ is reborn in the Bethlehems of our homes and daily lives. Take time, slow down, be still, be awake to the Divine Mystery that looks so common and so ordinary yet is wondrously present."

- Edward Hays

We thank our parishioners and guests for their continued generosity.

St. Theresa	Oct. 2025	Oct. 2024	Total for This FY (July 2025 – Oct. 2025)	Total for Prior FY (July 2024 – Oct. 2024)
Offertory	\$ 7886	\$ 5109	\$ 29035	\$ 28591
CSA for 2025	Goal	Pledged	Received	
	\$ 9603	\$ 8492	\$ 8492	

"The liturgy of Advent...helps us to understand fully the value and meaning of the mystery of Christmas. It is not just about commemorating the historical event, which occurred some 2,000 years ago in a little village of Judea. Instead, it is necessary to understand that the whole of our life must be an 'advent,' a vigilant awaiting of the final coming of Christ. To predispose our mind to welcome the Lord who, as we say in the Creed, one day will come to judge the living and the dead, we must learn to recognize him as present in the events of daily life. Therefore, Advent is, so to speak, an intense training that directs us decisively toward him who already came, who will come, and who comes continuously."

— St. John Paul II



“Wake up, O human being! For it was for you that God was made man. Rise up and realize it was all for you. Eternal death would have awaited you had He not been born in time.

Never would you be freed from your sinful flesh had He not taken to Himself the likeness of sinful flesh. Everlasting would be your misery had He not performed this act of mercy. You would not have come to life again had He not come to die your death. You would have perished had He not come.”

– St. Augustine

