

## 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**

**“When Joseph awoke, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took his wife into his home.”**



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

### Mass Times for The Fourth Sunday of Advent and the Nativity of the Lord.

December 20 Saturday Vigil Mass 5:00 pm  
Fourth Sunday of Advent

Intention: **+** Maria Derencius  
Reader: Regina

December 21 Sunday Mass 9:00 am  
Fourth Sunday of Advent

Intention: **+** Anna Warpecha  
Reader: Sal

December 22 Monday 8:00 am  
Advent Weekday **Confessions 3:00 pm**

Intention: Maria Antoniewicz



December 24 Wednesday Mass Midnight  
Vigil of the Nativity of the Lord

Int: Larry & Laura Arnold & Family  
Reader: Mark

December 25 Thursday Mass 9:00 am  
The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)



Intention: Soozie Pate  
Reader: Sal

December 26 Friday Adoration 7:00 am to 8:00 am  
St. Stephen, First Martyr – Feast Mass 8:00 am

Int: Health of St. Theresa Parish

December 27 Saturday Vigil Mass 5:00 pm  
Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph – Feast

Intention: The Derencius Family  
Reader: Christina

December 28 Sunday Mass 9:00 am  
Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph - Feast



Intention: Hai & Luong Nguyen  
Reader: Veronica

**"Whereas Adam and Eve were the source of evil which was unleashed on the world, Joseph and Mary are the summit from which holiness spreads all over the earth."**

**- Pope St. John Paul II**



**A Very Happy Birthday  
to Maria Antoniewicz  
on Tuesday December 23 and  
to Soozi Pate on December 25.**



## **A Holy, Happy, and Joyful Christmas to All.**

**The angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for behold, I proclaim to you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For today in the city of David a savior has been born for you who is Christ and Lord."**



**"Every mother, when she picks up the young life that has been born to her, looks up to the heavens to thank God for the gift which made the world young again. But here was a Mother, a Madonna, who did not look up. She looked down to heaven, for this was heaven in her arms."**

**- Ven. Fulton Sheen**



**"We consider Christmas as the encounter, the great encounter, the historical encounter, the decisive encounter, between God and mankind. He who has faith knows this truly; let him rejoice."**

**-- St. Paul VI**



**Thank you to all who contributed to our Christmas Flower fund to help to decorate our sanctuary this year.  
Thank you to all who worked so hard to decorate our Church, inside and outside, for Christmas.**



**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 Macijauskas, 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.

**“We know we have souls. However, we seldom consider the precious things that can be found in this soul, or who dwells within it, or its high value. Consequently, little effort is made to preserve its beauty. All our attention is taken up with the plainness of the diamond’s setting . . . that is, with these bodies of ours.” – St Teresa**

The Gospel accounts understand the virginal conception of Jesus as a divine work that surpasses all human understanding and possibility: "That which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit", said the angel to Joseph about Mary his fiancée. The Church sees here the fulfillment of the divine promise given through the prophet Isaiah: "Behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a son."

People are sometimes troubled by the silence of St. Mark's Gospel and the New Testament Epistles about Jesus' virginal conception. Some might wonder if we were merely dealing with legends or theological constructs not claiming to be history. To this we must respond: Faith in the virginal conception of Jesus met with the lively opposition, mockery or incomprehension of non-believers, Jews and pagans alike; so, it could hardly have been motivated by pagan mythology or by some adaptation to the ideas of the age. The meaning of this event is accessible only to faith, which understands in it the "connection of these mysteries with one another" in the totality of Christ's mysteries, from his Incarnation to his Passover. St. Ignatius of Antioch already bears witness to this connection: "Mary's virginity and giving birth, and even the Lord's death escaped the notice of the prince of this world: these three mysteries worthy of proclamation were accomplished in God's silence." (CCC 497-498)

**“He who is his own master is a scholar under a fool.”**  
**--St. Bernard**