

St. Thérèse of Lisieux Catholic Church

~Lenten Rewind~

"40 Days of Prayer, Fasting, and Penance for Peace, Unity, and Healing"

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace: where there is hatred, let me sow love;
where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith;
where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light;
where there is sadness, joy.

O divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console,
to be understood as to understand, to be loved as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive, it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

Amen.

**St. Francis of Assisi and St. Josephine Bakhita,
pray for us.**



Dear St. Therese Parishioners,

As a way for us to come together in faith, prayer and action during a very stressful and divisive time in our Church and Nation, we will be doing a Lenten Rewind called: **"40 Days of Prayer, Fasting and Penance for Peace, Unity and Healing"** beginning on September 23rd and concluding on November 3rd. If you are good at math you will realize that there are more than 40 days in that time period. That is because we are human and we may need a break at some point during this time. I pray that this will be a blessing for our parish family and help us to be a witness to our wider community of our desire to bring our faith to a confusing and troubling time. This is not intended to be partisan in any way, but rather to give us an opportunity to unite in our common identity as children of a loving Father.

Patron Saints Our Patron Saints during this timeframe will be St. Josephine Bakhita and St. Francis of Assisi.

Penitential Deeds or Practices We will be encouraging everyone to consider taking on a penance during this time. (ex. fasting from television news, giving up social media, serving the needy, learning more about one of these saints, reading the Daily Mass readings, praying part or all of the Liturgy of the Hours, fasting or abstaining one day each week, etc.)

Going to Confession and Communion Even though the Sunday obligation to attend Mass has been removed for now, we will be encouraging everyone to try to go to Confession at least one time during the 40 days and to try to receive Communion at least once a week during the 40 days.

Kick Off will be on Wednesday, September 23rd We will begin on September 23rd with Masses at 12:00 Noon and 5:30 pm in English, and 7:00 pm in Spanish. We will do our best to have these Masses livestreamed. The church will be open for Adoration except during the times for Mass. Confessions will be available from 10:45 am to 11:45 am on the 23rd. Confessions will be available as well each Wednesday: 4:15 pm - 5:15 pm and each Saturday: 9:15 am - 10:00 am and 4:45 pm - 5:45 pm

Stations of the Cross Each Friday beginning September 25th we will celebrate the Stations of the Cross in English at 6:00 pm and in Spanish at 7:00 pm. We will make our best effort to livestream these for those who wish to participate from home.

Prayer of St. Teresa of Avila after all Masses and we will pray the **Holy Rosary after each Noon Mass on Sunday.**

Focus on our Patron Saints On the weekend of September 26th and 27th we will focus our attention on **St. Josephine Bakhita** as one who encourages us to work against racism, prejudice, hatred and oppression. There is a great movie on the life of St. Josephine Bakhita that we hope to be able to show in the Gym for a movie night. <https://www.ignatius.com/Bakhita-P20.aspx>

The Feast of **Saint Francis of Assisi** is October 4th and on the weekend of October 3rd and 4th we will focus on St. Francis as one who teaches us how to forgive and how to be a builder of peace. There is also a good movie: Bishop Barron's Pivotal Player on St. Francis, which might also be a movie night event.

The Sacrament of Healing Because we are also praying for healing during this time, (both spiritual and physical) we will offer the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick at all of the Masses on October 18th which is the Feast of St. Luke who was also a physician. In order to receive the sacrament, Canon law states that anyone who is in some danger of death from an illness or from old age can receive the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. Likewise, should the person's condition worsen, the sacrament may be repeated (cf. CIC, can. 1004). If there is any doubt as to the seriousness of the illness or condition, the sacrament is to be received (cf. CIC, can. 1005). The Catechism of the Catholic Church adds that it is also appropriate to receive the sacrament prior to surgery (cf. CCC, 1515).

All Saints Sunday November 1st is the Solemnity of All Saints and we will have the normal Sunday Mass schedule. It is a great opportunity in person or via livestream to join in worship and seek the intercession of all of the saints for our Church and Nation.

All Souls Monday November 2nd is the celebration of All Souls Day and we will have Mass at 8:30 am and 12:00 Noon in English, and at 7:00pm in Spanish. We will pray the Rosary for All Souls after each Mass on this day. This is a great day to remember our dead and to pray for the repose of their souls.

November 3rd Election Day The church will be open following the 8:30 am Mass for exposition and Adoration until 7:00 pm.

We look forward to taking this spiritual journey together. Let us pray that the Holy Spirit will come to us and renew us.

"Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful. And kindle in them the fire of your love. Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created. And you will renew the face of the earth. Lord, by the light of the Holy Spirit you have taught the hearts of your faithful. In the same Spirit help us to relish what is right and always rejoice in your consolation. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen".