

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

Matthew 24:44

## ST. THERESE - LITTLE FLOWER **ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH**

4720 E. 13th Street Indianapolis, Indiana 46201

www.littleflowerparish.org

#### Little Flower Church Mission Statement



Little Flower Church (St. Therese of the Infant Jesus) is a vibrant faith community in the Roman Catholic Tradition, striving to live out the Gospel values of Jesus Christ. Centered in the Eucharist, we are called by God to look beyond ourselves to respond compassionately to the needs of others.

# The Theresean

OFFICE HOURS: PARISH CENTER Monday - Friday 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM 317-357-8352 Fax 317-357-5 317-357-5316

DOL 317-353-2282 Fax 317-322-7702 The school offers Pre-school 3's and 4's through Grade 8. Extended Care is available until 6:00 PM. SCHOOL 317-322-7702 Contact the school for more information.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION Saturday: 3:45 PM to 4:30 PM or by appointment.

#### SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Baptisms are held on most Sundays during the year. Baptisms are held after the 9:30 am Mass. If you prefer to have your child's baptism scheduled during Mass, you may request this at the time you return the baptism information form. Requests for the date and time specified will be honored to the extent possible. Parents who have not yet received pre-baptismal instruction are required to attend a Baptismal Preparation Class that is held 5 times per year. Call the Parish Office well in advance so that class arrangements may be made.

#### SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

Contact the priest 9 to 12 months in advance. A Wedding Handbook is available from the Parish Office which provides the necessary information on arranging for a marriage.

#### SACRAMENT OF ANOINTING/MINISTRY TO THE SICK

In an emergency, contact the parish at any time. Please contact the Parish Center if you or a loved one are hospitalized, or are confined to home or a nursing facility, to receive the Eucharist and/or Anointing. Hospitals and healthcare facilities no longer routinely inform churches when a parishioner is admitted.

#### SACRAMENT OF HOLY ORDERS

Priesthood or Vocation as a Religious Sister or Brother. Those considering entering the Priesthood or a religious vocation, please contact our Pastor or the Archdiocesan Vocation Office at 317-236-1490.

#### LITTLE FLOWER COUNSELING CENTER

Counseling services are available to Little Flower parishioners at a reduced rate. Please call Maureen Sweeney at (317) 617-2522.

#### INTERESTED IN THE CATHOLIC FAITH?

Inquiry Classes begin in late August as part of the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA). Call Parish Center for information.

#### PARISH REGISTRATION

We welcome all those visiting with us today. If you are interested in knowing more about our parish or wish to register for membership, please call the Parish Office. Registration forms are also available at each of the church doors.

#### BULLETIN DEADLINE

Articles for the bulletin must be submitted in writing to the Parish center or by email to lgibbons@littleflowerparish.org by noon on Monday.

PASTORAL STAFF

Fr. Robert J. Gilday, Pastor: FrBob@littleflowerparish.org Angie Mackell, Director of Stewardship and Administration:

AMackell@littleflowerparish.org Peggy Clegg, Pastoral Associate – Health & Senior Ministries: PClegg@littleflowerparish.org Jeannie Zimmerman, Parish Secretary: JZimmerman@littleflowerparish.org

Lisa Gibbons, Accounting Clerk/Religious Education Coordinator: Lisa Gibbons, Accounting Clerk/Religion LGibbons@littleflowerparish.org Kevin Gawrys, Principal: KGawrys@littleflowerparish.org Gavin Craig, Music Director: GCraig@littleflowerparish.org Jacob Comley, Maintenance Director:

Kurt Schnell

Bernie Sponsel Pat Brake

Lisa Gibbons (interim)

Cindy Woods Holly Hodges Carol Wehlage Lauren Lay OPEN POSITION

Patrick Becker

Katie Leszcynski

Michele Rosenbaum

Kelly Dunn

jcomley@littleflowerparish.org Sandy Clegg, Office Assistant:

SClegg@littleflowerparish.org

#### PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL Elizabeth Mann

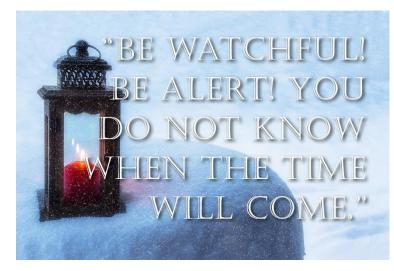
Chairperson Vice Chairperson Secretary Finance Council Faith Formation Commission Invite Commission Liturgy Commission Parish Life Commission School Commission Stewardship Commission At-Large Member At-Large Member At-Large Member At-Large Member

#### SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

5:00 PM 9:30 AM, 6:00 PM Mass Saturday: Sunday: Weekdays and Holy Days: Check inside the bulletin for schedule.

**Communion Services** 

Check inside the bulletin.



Dear Parish Family,

Today is the First Sunday of Advent. Advent is a time to prepare to welcome Christ more deeply into our minds, hearts, and lives this Christmas. In the past many of you have participated in Matthew Kelly and Dynamic Catholic's email program. If you have not already signed up for this year's program, *Best Advent Ever*, you can sign up at the Dynamic Catholic website: https://www.dynamiccatholic.com/advent.html.

Our Advent Penance Service this year will be this Wednesday, December 6, at 7 p.m. at Our Lady of Lourdes. Several priests are scheduled to be available for confessions. Jesus gave us the Sacrament of Reconciliation as a gift, not a burden. Please take this opportunity to be reconciled to God and others. For those who are unable to attend our Penance Service at Our Lady of Lourdes, Holy Spirit's Penance Service will be Tuesday, December 19, at 7:00 p.m. Also, we have confessions

every Saturday from 3:45 to 4:30 p.m.

This Friday, December 8, is the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, a Holyday of Obligation. Masses will be Friday morning at 9:30 a.m. (an All-School Mass) and Thursday evening at 6:00 p.m. Mary, under the title of her Immaculate Conception, is the patroness of the United States. Therefore, I would encourage everyone to attend Mass to pray for unity within our country.

Next Sunday, December 10, will be our annual parish Christmas party after the 9:30 a.m. Mass. Please see the bulletin flyer for details. The party will include brunch. Santa will make an appearance. There will a craft activity for grade school students to make if they wish as well as door prizes for both adults and children. Please join your parish family as we anticipate Christmas.

Thanks to everyone who attended our Thanksgiving Day Mass. Special thanks to Gavin Craig, the choir, and the instrumentalists who made the Liturgy beautiful and meaningful. The Liturgy would not have been what it was without them. Special thanks to those who gave in the collection to assist the St. Vincent de Paul Society. Despite the economy, we all have much for which to be grateful. God is indeed the giver of all gifts, both divine and human.

The third outstanding alumnus this year is Angie Rathz Mackell, Class of 1983, our Director of Stewardship and Parish Administration.

Angie is the second of three children and only daughter of Bill and Judy Rathz. After graduating from Little Flower, Angie attended Cathedral High School and graduated in 1987. Angie then attended Bellarmine College (now University) in Louisville where she played volleyball and softball. She graduated from Bellarmine in 1991 with a degree in Mathematics.

Angie met her husband Frank in 1995 while they were both volunteering at Community Little League. They married in 1996 and welcomed their daughter Samantha in 1999. Angie, Frank, and Sam all continue to be active in the Little Flower community.

After working for various companies in various capacities, a friend suggested she apply for the open position of Director of Stewardship and Parish Administration at Little Flower. After initially dismissing the idea, she prayed about it and decided to submit her resume. Angie says she had no idea after the job turmoil she experienced that God was leading her home to Little Flower to her dream job. She is currently in her 7<sup>th</sup> year as a staff member at Little Flower. Besides her job at Little Flower, Angie continues to volunteer in multiple ways. She coaches kickball, her favorite sport, and volleyball. She also serves as a Eurharistic Minister, Green Thumb minister, and marriage preparation sponsor with her husband, Frank. She recently became a member of the CYO Board of Directors.

Angie feels the education and experiences at Little Flower were pivotal to her success in high school, college, and beyond. She never stopped attending Mass regularly, even in college, as it was just "built in." Angie stated, "Even beyond the academics, the Catholic values that are lived and learned at Little Flower help its students become good human beings and give them the ability to succeed at life."

However, as I have gotten to know Angie these last seven years, what has impressed me most is her deep personal faith. She is truly both spiritual and religious.

For being a devoted wife and mother, for her commitment and service to Little Flower Parish, and for her deep personal faith, we honored Angie Rathz Mackell as an outstanding alumna of Little Flower Catholic School.

Have a wonderful week.

fr. Bob



### Mass Intentions

For the Week of December 4 - 10, 2023						
04	December	Monday				
	5:30 p.m.	Mo Walsh				
05	December	Tuesday				
	5:30 p.m.	Peggy Brock by the Clifford Family				
06	December	Wednesday				
		No Mass				
07	December	Thursday				
	5:30 p.m.	John A. Maio by the Maio Family				
08	December	Friday				
	9:30 a.m.	For the People				
	6:00 p.m.	Michael Anthony Maio by Dennis & Noreen				
		Murphy				
09	December	Saturday – The Vigil of the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of				
		Advent				
	5:00 p.m.	Karen Alger by Friends				
10	December	Sunday – The Second Sunday of Advent				
	9:30 a.m.	For the People				
	6:00 p.m.	For the Intentions of Carol Freeland				

### 🖊 THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

	December 04 - 10, 2023						
DAY	ROOM	TIME	GROUP				
Sunday	Church	9:30 a.m.	Children's Liturgy				
	Duffey Hall	10:30 a.m.	Coffee and Donuts				
	(school café)						
	School	10:30 a.m.	Religious Ed				
	Ladies Club Bake Sale after all Masses.						
	New Parishioner Registration after all Masses.						
Monday	St. Patrick (Parish Center)	6:30 p.m.	Invite Commission				
Tuesday	Duffey Hall	6:00 p.m.	LF Neighborhood Chili				
	(school café)		& Cornbread Cookoff				
	St. Therese (Parish Center)	7:00 p.m.	RCIA				
	St. Patrick (Parish Center)	7:00 p.m.	Stewardship Committee				
	Church	7:00 p.m.	Christmas Choir				
Wednesday	Duffey Hall	6:00 p.m.	Athletic Association				
-	(school café)	-					
	At Our Lady	7:00 p.m.	Advent Peance Service				
	of Lourdes						
	St. Patrick	7:00 p.m.	School Commission				
	(Parish Center)	1.00					
Thursday	St. Therese	1:00 p.m.	Thursday Formation Group				
	(Parish Center) Duffey Hall	7:00 p.m.	Ladies Club				
	(school café)	7.00 p.m.	Endles Club				
	St. Therese	8:00 p.m.	АА				
	(Parish Center)	0.00 p.m.	1111				
Friday	The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Mary						
-	<i>. . .</i>	Holy Day of Obligation (See Mass Schedule)					
	St. Therese	4:00 p.m.	Legion of Mary				
Saturday	(Parish Center)	fta dua hagle 41	l				
Saturday	Giving Tree Gifts due back this weekend.						
	Ladies Club Christmas Flower Collection after all						
	Masses. Blood Pressure Check after all Masses.						
Sunday							
Sulluay	Duffey Hall	9.30 a.m. 10:30 a.m.	Parish Christmas				
	(school café)	10.30 a.III.	Party				
	St. Therese (Parish Center)	3:30 p.m.	Confirmation Prep				
	(1 mish Center)	I	L				



We remember our parishioner, **Charlie Goodman**, who passed away on November 16, 2023. Charlie was faithful about attending Mass when his health was good. He always enjoyed

attending the Adventuresome Group luncheons. There will be a Memorial Mass for Charlie sometime after the first of the year. Please keep all of Charlie's family and friends in your thoughts and prayers during this difficult time. May God welcome Charlie into his eternal glory.



The Ladies Club will be taking a trip to the Indiana Historical Society to see the Festival of Trees on Saturday December

**30**. We will meet in the Little Flower parking lot at 9:15 and leave by 9:30 for those who may want to carpool. Please contact Peggy Clegg at <u>pclegg@littleflowerparish.org</u> or 317-403-7444 if you want a free ticket! Free tickets are on a first come, first serve basis. If we run out of tickets, you will need to purchase yours at the doors and the cost is \$14.00. This is a great way to wrap up the holiday season. All are welcome!

Next weekend, December 9 and 10 is the annual collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious. Aging religious need your help. Senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests spent years working in Catholic schools, hospitals, and agencies, often for little pay. Their sacrifices leave their religious communities without adequate savings for retirement and eldercare. Your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious collection helps provide prescription medications, nursing care, and more. Please give to those who have given a lifetime. Please use your envelope provided in the regular packet and place it in the regular collection next weekend, or give online at <u>www.retiredreligious.org</u>.



Ladies of the parish, please join us for our Ladies Club Christmas Party on Thursday December 7 beginning at 7:00 p.m. in the cafeteria. Please

bring a food dish to share with everyone. There will be a White Elephant gift exchange. The cost of the gift should be no more than \$10.00. Please join us and bring a friend for a *Jolly Good Time*!



Holiday Bulletin Deadlines

Our bulletin company has been alerted by UPS and FedEx that both companies expect to be pushed to capacity this holiday season, if not beyond. Also, to ensure delivery with office closures during the holidays, we will have strict deadlines for bulletin submissions.

Please make note of the changes.

#### Christmas Schedule

- December 17 bulletin submissions are <u>due by Thursday</u>, December 7, at noon.
- **December 24 bulletin** submissions are <u>due by Thursday</u>, December 14, at noon.
- December 31 bulletin submissions are <u>due by Thursday</u>, <u>December 21, at noon.</u>



#### ST. THERESE – LITTLE FLOWER ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

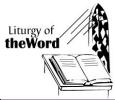
Weekend Mass Attendance (weekly averages)					
December 2019 - February 2020 (pre-pandemic)	608				
June 2020 - May 2021	249				
June 2021 - May 2022	434				
June 2022 - May 2023	483				
June 2023 - September 2023	469				
October 2023	459				
November	515				

#### LITTLE FLOWER ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

#### CYO Winter Sports are registering now!!!!

- Girls Basketball
- Co-Ed Cheerleading
- Wrestling (Lourdes code: 1710LLS-IN)
- Boys Volleyball
- Co-Ed 2nd-3rd Grade Intramural Basketball (Holy Spirit cade: 160HS-IN)

Go to orgsonline.com to register now. School Code 165LF-IN. We are looking for Coaches and Volunteers. Come to the next Athletic Association meeting on Wednesday, December 6 at 6:00 p.m.



Readings for December 9/10 2nd Sunday of Advent Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11 2 Peter 3:8-14 Mark 1:1-8 To read the readings on-line, go to

https://bible.usccb.org/bible/readings/121023.cfm



We will be having **Gifts for Baby Jesus** at all Christmas Masses. Please bring your UNWRAPPED gifts to Mass. There will be an announcement letting us know when to bring them forward to the crib. Much needed items are:

Hygiene products Wipes BABY Towels and washcloths Nice receiving blankets Diapers SIZE 4, 5, and 6 Bottles Socks, clothing and snow suits sizes 0-12 month PAC n Play sheets Baby bathtubs

We happily accept gently used clothing, bouncers, walking toys, PAC n Plays, strollers, swings and high chairs year around Thank you for all you do to support our efforts.





Please keep our ill and homebound parishioners and friends in your thoughts and prayers, especially the following people who have requested prayers for various reasons:

Bill Ajamie, Tricia Allstatt, Fr. Mike Barton, Jane Bell, Esther Capps, Joe Clegg, Mark Clevenger, Dan Dugan, Sherri (Ruegamer) Dugger, Joanna Estes, Forestal Family, Carol Freeland, Olivia Jo Garrison, Haydee Gloria, Katie Goodin, Margie Greene, Linda Hedges, Mary Lou Hoggatt, Lois Irwin, Bobbie Lawless, Bobby Lesczynski, Larry Lynch, Catherine McKenna-Sexton, Sally Meth, Gene Miller, Jimmy Murphy, Carol Murphy, Mike Payne, Ray Quinn, Bill Rathz, Judy Rathz, Scott Rhinehart, Ray Riley, Lourdes Riedeman, Bill Schlosser, Gary Walters, and Janet Wilkerson.

If you get a chance, please send them a card or a note. It will brighten their day. This week we especially want to remember:

#### Sandi Adkins 446 N Bosart Ave, Indianapolis, IN 46201

#### Pray for our active military family/friends:

Brian Ledgerwood, serving on the USS Theodore Roosevelt, son of Diane Anderson

Victor Franco, serving at Malmstrom Air Force Base in Great Falls, MT.

**Matthew Hughey**, serving at Scott Air Force Base – nephew of Rita Cooning.

Aden S. Haigerty, United States Navy, serving aboard aircraft carrier USS Ronald Reagan – nephew of Mike Haigerty.

Javier Estrada – United States Navy, serving on the USS Wisconsin in Great Lakes, IL.

**Jared Cox -** United States Army at Fort Riley, Kansas, grandson of Ed and Cindy Wernsing.

If you or someone in your family is ill or serving our country and would like their name listed in the bulletin so others can pray for them, please contact Peggy Clegg at 317-357-8352 or pclegg@littleflowerparish.org.



Knights of Columbus Fatima Council Ladies Auxiliary

The Ladies Auxiliary will hold their December/ Christmas Party meeting on Wednesday, December 13. The meeting will start at 6:00 PM and dinner will be

served after the meeting. We will be discussing plans for the Ladies Auxiliary for 2024. We also have a \$10.00 gift exchange at the party. All Ladies are welcome to attend. If you have any questions about the Auxiliary, please contact Mary McGinley at 317-627-2840. If you are planning on attending please text or call Holly Blagburn at 317-965-8781, or Mary McGinley at 317-627-2840 so we have an accurate count for dinner.

### **STEWARDSHIP CORNER**

Your Gifts of Treasure

Weekly Budget Goal	\$	13,200.00				
Collection of November 18 & 19		5,737.20				
Electronic Contributions 11/13-11/17	\$	9,870.99				
Collection of November 25 & 26	\$	8,752.45				
Electronic Contributions 11/20-11/24		3,221.94				
Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Actual		275,382.21				
Fiscal Year 2023-24 Budget		290,400.00				
Fiscal Year 2023-24 YTD DEFICIT		- 15,017.79				
<b>Home Improvement Fund</b>						
September Contributions	\$	2,243.00				
October Contributions		2,354.00				
November Contributions		2,364.00				

#### PLEASE NOTE

November 12 was Intention Sunday for the Archdiocesan United Catholic Appeal: Christ our Hope. Christ our Hope provides yearlong support to Archdiocesan ministries that benefit people in all parishes. You should have received your intention card in the mail, but extras are available at the church doors. If you have not turned your card in, please do so as soon as possible. You may place them in the regular collection or mail them to the Archdiocese in the envelope provided. Please be as generous as possible.

Please take special care that you do not mistake this for the intention card for parish support. Our parish awareness campaign for stewardship of time, talent, and treasure will take place in the coming months.



The Adventuresome Group will meet on Wednesday, **December 13, following the 11:00 a.m. Mass.** This month the students in kindergarten will join us. They will sing a few songs for us and Fr. Bob will read them the book The Night

Before Christmas! Please join us and bring a friend. All are welcome! You may call Jeannie at the Parish Center, 317-403-7444, to let us know you are coming.



#### 2023 Christmas Giving Tree

Please bring the wrapped gifts (with the original tag from the tree on the outside of the package) to church **NEXT WEEKEND,** DECEMBER 9 and 10. If you cannot fulfill the need, please return the tag to the tree, or to the parish office by DECEMBER 8. This deadline is very important. **Return gifts to** 

church or to the parish center NO LATER THAN the end of the day on December 11. Thank You.



The Little Flower Ladies Club will be at the doors of the church the weekend of December 9 & 10, collecting funds to ensure our beautiful church will be decorated for Christmas. Thank you for your support.

ALL WEEKEND MASSES DECEMBER 2 & 3 First Sunday of Advent- Regular Weekend Mass Schedule Anticipation Mass, Saturday 5:00 P.M., Sunday at 9:30 A.M., & 6:00 P.M. BLESSING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6 – 7:00 P.M. ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE FOR OUR LADY OF LOURDES AND LITTLE FLOWER THIS SERVICE IS AT OUR LADY OF LOURDES THIS YEAR

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8 SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION (Holy Day of Obligation) 9:30 A.M. & 6:00 P.M. Masses (No Anticipation Mass)

WEEKEND MASSES DECEMBER 9 & 10 Second Sunday of Advent- Regular Mass Schedule Parish Christmas Party- 10:30 A.M. in Parish Social Hall (after 9:30 A.M. Mass)

WEEKEND MASSES DECEMBER 16 & 17 Third Sunday of Advent- Regular Mass Schedule

WEEKEND MASSES DECEMBER 23 & 24 Fourth Sunday of Advent Masses only at 5:00 P.M. Saturday and 9:30 A.M. Sunday

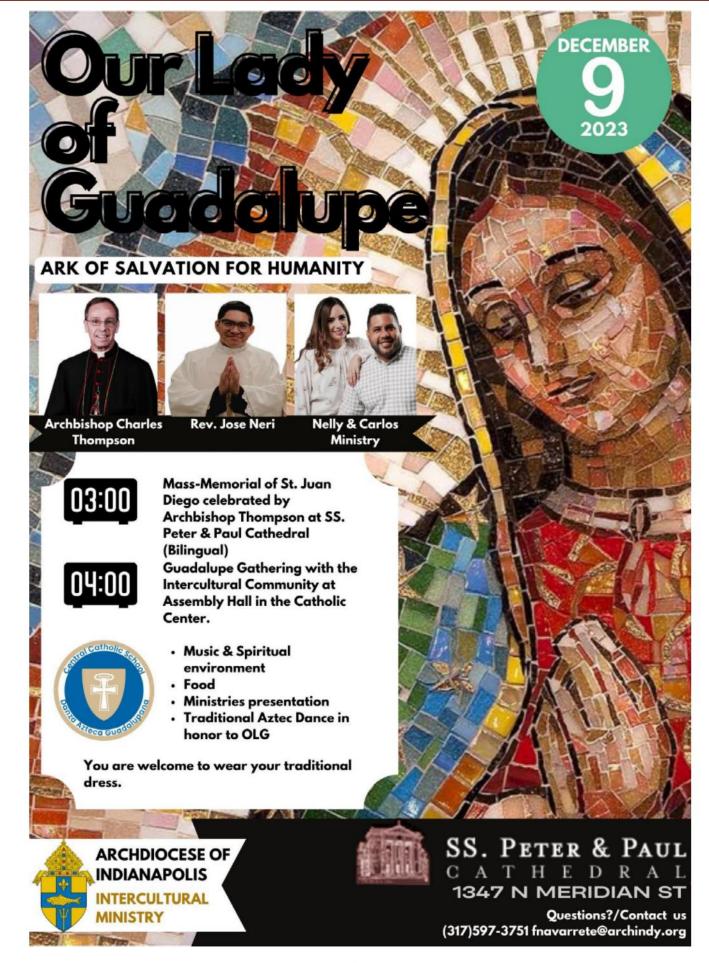
#### CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve, Sunday, December 24 4:00 P.M., 5:30 P.M., & 10:00 P.M. Full Christmas Choir at 10:00 P.M. Mass (music beginning at 9:25 P.M.) Christmas Day, Monday, December 25 - 9:30 A.M.

#### Upcoming Communications Research Participation Opportunity

The Archdiocese of Indianapolis is conducting an archdiocesan-wide research initiative to help shape our communications strategies. Hirons, an Indianapolis-based communications firm, will be reaching out to parishioners in the coming weeks. For questions or participation information, please contact <u>research@archindy.org</u>.









# Little Flower Christmas Party

# Sunday, December 10 After the 9:30 a.m. Mass

Menu: eggs, potatoes, sausage gravy and biscuits, ham, muffins, fruit, and drinks





## FEATURING

Visit with Santa (bring a camera for pictures) Craft project for the kids Door prizes for adults and children

## Come celebrate with your parish family!

Sponsored by the Parish Life Commission



DIOCESAN ¥ To Advertise 1-800-282-5106 Online at Diocesan.com/Business VISA Solute Solution DISC VER 2369