"It was of him that the prophet Isaiah had spoken when he said: "A voice of one crying out in the desert, 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths."

Matthew 3:3

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

4720 E. 13th Street Indianapolis, Indiana 46201

www.littleflowerparish.org

### Little Flower Church Mission Statement

### 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:

LGibbons@littleflowerparish.org

Elizabeth Mann Kurt Schnell

Bernie Sponsel Pat Brake

Lisa Gibbons (interim) Cindy Woods Holly Hodges Carol Wehlage

Lauren Lay OPEN POSITION

Katie Leszcynski

Michele Rosenbaum

Patrick Becker

Kelly Dunn

Kevin Gawrys, Principal: KGawrys@littleflowerparish.org Gavin Craig, Music Director: GCraig@littleflowerparish.org Jacob Comley, Maintenance Director:

jcomley@littleflowerparish.org Sandy Clegg, Office Assistant: SClegg@littleflowerparish.org

# PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

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

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

**Communion Services** 

Check inside the bulletin.

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 317-357-5316

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.

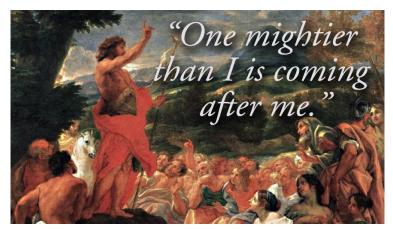
### BULLETIN DEADLINE

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









Dear Parish Family,

Last Sunday, before the 9:30 a.m. Mass and during the 6:00 p.m. Mass, one of our neighbors came over to complain about parishioners parking on her property. Please do not park on 13<sup>th</sup> Street beside the house on the northwest corner of 13<sup>th</sup> and Bosart (1302 N. Bosart). The light of Christ cannot shine through us when we are not good neighbors.

Thanks to the members of the Parish Life Commission for hosting *Journey into Advent: Faith, Family, & Fun* on November 29 and thanks to the families who attended.

On Tuesday, December 12, we will celebrate the Feast of our Lady of Guadalupe with an all-school Mass at 9:30 a.m. This feast commemorates the appearance of the Blessed Mother to St.

Juan Diego on the hill of Tepeyac from December 9 to December 12 in 1531. Our Lady of Guadalupe was declared patroness of the Americas by Pope Pius XII and was raised to the level of Feast for all the countries of the Americas in 1999. St. Juan Diego was canonized by St. John Paul II on July 31, 2002. His feast is December 9.

Thursday, December 14, is the 28<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the death of Fr. Robert Borchertmeyer. Fr. Bob was killed in a traffic accident returning home from a Penance Service in 1995. Fr. Bob served as associate pastor of Little Flower from 1958-1968 and as pastor of Little Flower from 1985-1995. On Thursday, please pray for him and for our parish.

If you missed our Our Lady of Lourdes/ Little Flower Advent Penance Service on December 6, Holy Spirit will have their Advent Penance Service on Tuesday, December 19, at 7 p.m. Also, please remember that I hear confessions every Saturday afternoon from 3:45 to 4:30 p.m.

Extra special thanks to Men's Club members DrewTorzewski, Jared Kantner, Scott Sidor, Frank Mackell, Mark Hudgins, Angie Mackell, and Nolan Torzewski who combined to remove the old water heater and then to purchase and install a new water heater in the rectory on Saturday, December 2. I discovered I had no hot water on Friday, December 1, and if they had not stepped up, I would not have had hot water until last Monday, December 4. I am so grateful to them. As I thank them in a special way, I want to thank the entire Men's Club for all they do here at Little Flower.

This year's final outstanding alumnus was Drew Torzewski, Class of 1994. Drew is the oldest of four children born to Rosie and Joe Torzewski. All four children attended Little Flower while growing up on Riley Ave. Drew is grateful for the sacrifices his mother made that allowed him and his siblings to attend Catholic schools. Drew graduated from Little Flower in 1994 and Scecina in 1998. He married Amy in 2004. Drew and Amy have three children who have attended Little Flower—Nolan ('19), Marek ('21), and Paisley ('25). For most of his career, Drew has worked in sales. Drew currently works for the Glenrock Company.

Since officially returning home to Little Flower Parish in 2007, Drew has been involved with numerous Little Flower volunteer groups and activities. Drew currently serves as the president of the Little Flower Men's Club, and he was recently a key figure in reinstating the Saturday morning Men's Prayer Group. Drew looks forward to any opportunity around Little Flower that fosters engagement or support for the community that has given him so much in life. What has always impressed me about Drew is his contagious enthusiasm in everything he undertakes.

Little Flower has always been an will always remain a special place for Drew. He credits his time at Little Flower and constant generosity of the community for fostering a deep desire to give back. He continues, "It's the people that make Little Flower special, and that starts with the ability to experience Little Flower School. I'm excited to see the diverse and growing enrollment and remain hopeful for the strong future of Little Flower. The commitment to our Christian faith and family values that Little Flower provide are needed now more than ever."

For being a devoted husband and father and for his volunteer commitment and service to Little Flower Parish, we honored Drew Torzewski as an outstanding alumnus of Little Flower Catholic School.

Have a wonderful week.

fr. Bob

# Adopt-A-Seminarian Program

The Office of Priestly and Religious Vocations has assigned Alexander W. Lindberg to Little Flower in their Adopt-A-Seminarian Program. Through this program we ask everyone to pray for, send words of encouragement, or care packages to Alexander throughout the year. There are prayer cards with his picture at the church doors. Direct contact information for Alexander can be found at www.HearGodsCall.com.

# Mass Intentions

For the Week of December 11 - 17, 2023					
11	December	Monday			
	5:30 p.m.	Souls in Purgatory by John T. Kelly			
12	December	Tuesday			
	9:30 a.m.	For the Intentions of Fr. Bob by the Legion			
		of Mary			
13	December	Wednesday			
	11:00 a.m.	Floretta Burton by Debbie Kochne			
14	December	Thursday			
		No Mass			
15	December	Friday			
	5:30 p.m.	Msgr. Joseph Riedeman			
16	December	Saturday – The Vigil of the 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of			
		Advent			
	5:00 p.m.	Manuel Corpuz by the Corpuz Family			
17	December	Sunday – The Third Sunday of Advent			
	9:30 a.m.	Vincent Tucher by Robert & Gerry Burgin			
	6:00 p.m.	For the People			

# / THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

# December 10-17, 2023

December 10-17, 2023							
DAY	ROOM	TIME	GROUP				
Sunday	Giving Tree gifts due back this weekend.						
	Blood Pressure check after all Masses.						
	Ladies Club Christmas Flower Collection after all						
	Masses.						
	Church	9:30 a.m.	Children's Liturgy				
	Duffey Hall	10:30 a.m.	Parish Christmas				
	(school café)		Party				
	St. Therese (Parish Center)	3:30 p.m.	Confirmation Prep				
Monday							
Tuesday	Parish Office Closes at 11:30 a.m.						
	St. Therese	7:00 p.m.	RCIA				
	& St. Patrick						
	(Parish Center)	6.20	DDC M				
	Duffey Hall	6:30 p.m.	PPS Meeting				
	(school café)	7.00	Christmas Choir				
XX7 . 1 1 .	Church	7:00 p.m.					
Wednesday	Church/PC	11:00 a.m.	Adventuresome Group				
(1) 1	Gym	7:30 p.m.	K-5 Christmas Program				
Thursday	St. Therese (Parish Center)	1:00 p.m.	Thursday Formation Group				
	Off-Site	6:00 p.m.	Men's Club				
	St. Therese	8:00 p.m.	AA				
	(Parish Center)	0.00 p.m.	7111				
Friday	St. Therese (Parish Center)	4:00 p.m.	Legion of Mary				
	Duffey Hall	7:00 p.m.	Middle School Dance				
	(school café)	<b>7</b> .00					
Saturday	St. Patrick (Parish Center)	7:00 a.m.	Men's Prayer Group				
	LF Campus	9:00 a.m.	Men's Workday				
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				

# ATTENTION

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!



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



Readings for December 16/17 3rd Sunday of Advent Isaiah 61:1-2A, 10-11 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24 John 1:6-8, 19-28 To read the readings on-line, go to

https://bible.usccb.org/bible/readings/121723.cfm



# 2023 Christmas Giving Tree

If you forgot your wrapped gifts (with the original tag from the tree on the outside of the package) this weekend, please return gifts to parish center NO LATER THAN 3 p.m. on December 11. Thank You.

# 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			
June 2023 - September 2023			
October 2023			
November 2023			
1 <sup>st</sup> Week December	490		

# **Please Note:**

The Parish Office will close at 11:30 a.m. on

Tuesday, December 12.



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.



Calling all people who love to clean! The Church cleaning ministry is looking for 6 dedicated volunteers to help with cleaning the church for the upcoming year, 2024. We are saying goodbye to some folks that have given many years to this ministry. If you are interested in learning about or

joining this ministry, please call Michele Rosenbaum at 317-443-7342. We need at least 6 people but would gladly take more!!



# 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.



### **100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary!**

Little Flower Parish will celebrate its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2025! An executive committee has been formed to begin planning a year's worth of celebrations, and subcommittees will be established to assist with

details. If you are interested in contributing in some way to the planning of our events, please contact Angie at amackell@littleflowerparish.org.



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, Havdee 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:

### Jane Bell 815 N Chester Avenue, 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.

### **Little Flower Euchre Nights**

Sponsored by the Little Flower Men's Club Who:

Ladies and Gents at least 21 years of age

Where: Little Flower Cafeteria

When: The following Wednesday nights from 6:30-9:00 p.m.:

December 20

We will play a round robin within groups of 8, so you will play 7 rounds and partner with everyone in your group of 8. Rounds will last 15 minutes with each player dealing twice if time allows - we will strictly limit each round to 15 minutes. We will play 4 rounds then take a 15minute break before playing the final three rounds.

Snacks will be provided and soft drinks/water will be available for \$1 each.

Little Flower Euchre Rules will be handed out when you register.

Questions – contact Chris Johnson (317) 513-8168 or johnsojc@iupui.edu.

# **STEWARDSHIP CORNER**

Your Gifts of Treasure

Weekly Budget Goal		13,200.00
Collection of December 2 and 3		9,395.00
Electronic Contributions 11/27-12/1		7,062.69
Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Actual	\$	291,839.90
Fiscal Year 2023-24 Budget	\$	303,600.00
Fiscal Year 2023-24 YTD DEFICIT	\$	- 11,760.10
Home Improvement	Fund	<u>L</u>
October Contributions	\$	2,354.00
November Contributions		2,364.00
December Contributions	\$	951.00

### PLEASE NOTE

**PLEASE NOTE:** If you would like a donation to be credited in 2023, it must be received no later than the weekend of December 30/31. Also, any donations received in the envelopes marked for the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God (News Year's Day) will be credited in 2024.

United Catholic Appeal (gifts processed as of 12/4)	
Parish Goal	\$ 62.294.00
# of gifts received or pledged	28
Amount of gifts received or pledged	\$ 8,540.00



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, 317-357-8352, to let us know you are coming.



All men of Little Flower parish are invited to join **a Saturday morning prayer group.** These bi-weekly meetings will take place in the parish center from 7:00-8:00 a.m. See parish calendar for specific dates.

This once long-standing tradition at Little Flower is coming back after several years hiatus. We will read and reflect upon the Sunday scripture passages, followed by open discussion. We hope to strengthen our spiritual lives, while encouraging group fellowship, support, and prayer.



# ADVENT & CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

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.

WEEKEND MASSES DECEMBER 30 & 31 FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY, & JOSEPH Anticipation Mass, Saturday at 5 P.M., Sunday at 9:30 A.M. & 6 p.m. Full Christmas Choir at 9:30 A.M. Mass (Music begins at 9:10 A.M.)

MONDAY, JANUARY 1 SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD Mass at 9:30 A.M.

WEEKEND MASSES JANUARY 6 & 7 SOLEMINITY OF THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD Anticipation Mass, Saturday at 5 P.M., Sunday at 9:30 A.M. & 6:00 P.M. Full Christmas Choir at 9:30 A.M. Mass (Music begins at 9:10 A.M.)





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