

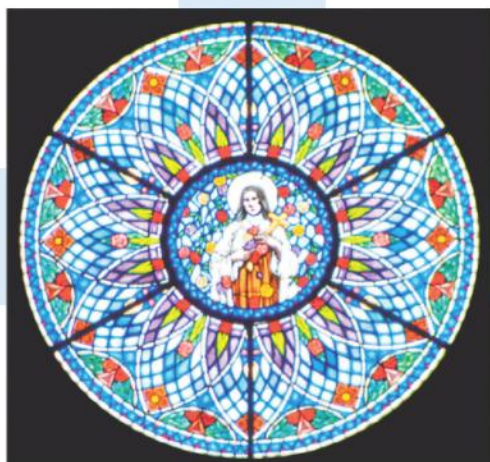
Father,  
help us to live as the  
*Holy Family*



## ST. THERESE - LITTLE FLOWER ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

4720 E. 13th Street Indianapolis, Indiana 46201

[www.littleflowerparish.org](http://www.littleflowerparish.org)



### 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  
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	Elizabeth Mann
Vice Chairperson	Kurt Schnell
Secretary	Bernie Sponsel
Finance Council	Pat Brake
Faith Formation Commission	Lisa Gibbons (interim)
Invite Commission	Cindy Woods
Liturgy Commission	Holly Hodges
Parish Life Commission	Carol Wehlage
School Commission	Lauren Lay
Stewardship Commission	OPEN POSITION
At-Large Member	Patrick Becker
At-Large Member	Kelly Dunn
At-Large Member	Katie Leszczynski
At-Large Member	Michele Rosenbaum

### 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 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:** Monday - Friday 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM  
**PARISH CENTER** 317-357-8352 Fax 317-357-5316

**SCHOOL** 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.  
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.

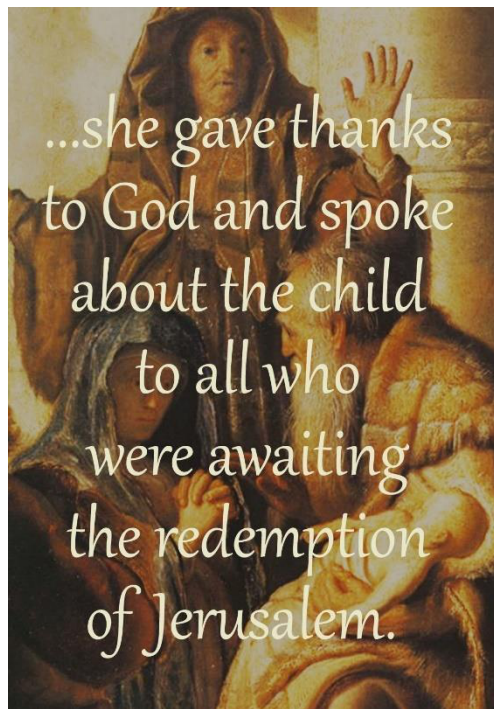
### PARISH REGISTRATION

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,

Today we celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph. Today we want to pray for all families that they will model themselves after the Holy Family. However, with all the violence in the world, we also want to pray for the human family that we all see ourselves as children of the same God and, therefore, brothers and sisters of one another.

This Monday, January 1, is the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God. Normally, January 1 is a Holyday of Obligation. However, this year, because it falls on Monday, it is not a Holyday of Obligation. Therefore, the only Mass for the Solemnity will be Monday, January 1, at 9:30 a.m.

January 1 has also been designated as a Day of Prayer for World Justice and Peace. The theme for Pope Francis' annual World Day of Peace message for 2024 is "Artificial Intelligence and Peace." Of course, January 1 is also New Year's Day.

Therefore, I want to strongly encourage you to attend Mass on Monday. The parish office will be closed on Monday, January 1.

Due to some recent incidents of unauthorized access to the church, which included thefts and damage, we have changed the code to enter the church from the door nearest the rectory. To obtain the new code, please contact Jeannie in the parish office at 317-357-8352, or ask any parish staff member. If you have obtained the code, you may only give it to someone else as long as you know and trust that person.

Although we realize this is the adoration chapel for the East Deanery, anyone whom we do not know will need to come to the parish center between 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. to sign in and show their ID. The sign up sheet asks for the date, time, name, address, phone number and parish of anyone we do not know who wants access to the chapel or church. We will also ask them to show ID to verify that they are who they say they are. They will only need to sign in once.

Also, when you enter and exit the church through that door, please make sure it closes and latches properly before you walk away.

I am sorry that we have to become more security conscious and for any inconvenience this may cause.

As 2023 ends and 2024 begins, I once again want to thank our parish staff for everything they do throughout the year. I want to thank our school staff for their commitment to providing a Catholic school education to our students.

Also, I want to offer a special thank you to all those who took tags from the Giving Trees and all those who organized the gifts and distributed them. I am sure many children and many people in nursing homes had a brighter Christmas because of your generosity.

Finally, the entire parish staff and I want to wish you a blessed New Year. In the Old Testament Book of Numbers [6:24-26], God prescribed the blessing with which Aaron and his descendants would bless the Israelites. This blessing is particularly appropriate at the beginning of the New Year:

*The LORD bless you and keep you!  
The LORD let his face shine upon you, and be gracious to you!  
The LORD look upon you kindly and give you peace!*

Have a blessed and joyful New Year!

fr. Bob



Please welcome into our Christian community Owen Bautista Mejia, son of Roberto Bautista and Alexandra Mejia, who was baptized on Sunday, December 17, 2023.



**On Sunday, January 21, 2024, at the 9:30 a.m. Mass, we will celebrate the Rite of Enrollment.** At this rite our First Communicants will be called by name and gather around the altar with their

parents as they are enrolled as candidates for First Eucharist. Please keep these families and children in your prayers during the coming months.

**The Parish Office will be closed on  
Monday, January 1, 2024,  
in observance of New Year's Day.**



## Masses For The Week

For the Week of January 1 – 7, 2024

- 01 January Monday**  
9:30 a.m. Martha Haddin by Family
- 02 January Tuesday**  
5:30 p.m. Souls in Purgatory by John T. Kelly
- 03 January Wednesday**  
5:30 p.m. Dorothy Latocki by Ron Sharp
- 04 January Thursday**  
5:30 p.m. Ernestine Costello
- 05 January Friday**  
No Mass
- 06 January Saturday – The Vigil of the Epiphany**  
5:00 p.m. For the Intentions of Fr. Bob by Your Parish Family
- 07 January Sunday – The Epiphany**  
9:30 a.m. For the Intentions of Renee Gordon by Andrew & Mindy Gordon & Family  
6:00 p.m. For the People

## THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

December 31, 2023 – January 7, 2024

DAY	ROOM	TIME	GROUP
<b>Sunday</b>	The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph		
<b>Monday</b>	Happy New Year		
	Parish Office closed		
<b>Tuesday</b>			
<b>Wednesday</b>	St. Parick (Parish Center)	7:00 p.m.	School Commission
<b>Thursday</b>			
	St. Therese (Parish Center)	8:00 p.m.	AA
<b>Friday</b>	St. Therese (Parish Center)	4:00 p.m.	Legion of Mary
<b>Saturday</b>	Church	3:30 p.m.	1 <sup>st</sup> Saturday Devotions
	New Parishioner Registration after all Weekend Masses		
<b>Sunday</b>	Church	9:30 a.m.	Children's Liturgy
	Duffey Hall (School Café)	10:30 a.m.	Coffee and Donuts
	School	10:30 a.m.	Religious Ed

### 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 2023	515
December 1 - 17	539

### IMPORTANT NOTICE!

Please note! Father Bob will never ask for contributions or special favors via email or text. Should you receive such contact, do not click on links. Delete immediately.

*thank you*

Thank you to everyone who participated in our **2023 Giving Tree** program. Through your generosity, we were able to help 156 children

from 65 families and 20 nursing home residents to have a better Christmas! The parents of the children we help are always so thankful for the assistance we give them to make Christmas just a little more special. The nursing home residents we purchased gifts for were residents that had no one else to buy them any Christmas gifts! May God continue to bless you as you have blessed others. ~ St. Vincent de Paul, Little Flower Conference



**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 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, Carol Murphy, Jimmy Murphy, Mike Payne, Ray Quinn, Bill Rathz, Judy Rathz, Scott Rhinehart, Lourdes Riedeman, Ray Riley, Bill Schlosser, Gary Walters, 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:

**Esther Capps**  
**Creekside Health and Rehab**  
**3114 E 46<sup>th</sup> St, Indianapolis, IN 46205**

### 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 in Dalgren, VA. son of Liliana Estrada, grandson of Martin and Shannon Estrada.

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

**Juan Santiago** - United States Army at Fort Riley, Kansas, son of Velma Cecilio and brother of Edgar Santiago.

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](mailto:pclegg@littleflowerparish.org).

**STEWARDSHIP CORNER****Your Gifts of Treasure**

Weekly Budget Goal	\$ 13,200.00
Collection of December 23 and 24	Check back next week
Electronic Contributions 12/18-12/22	Check back next week
Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Actual	\$ 326,529.30
Fiscal Year 2023-24 Budget	\$ 330,000.00
Fiscal Year 2023-24 YTD DEFICIT	\$ - 3,470.70

**Home Improvement Fund**

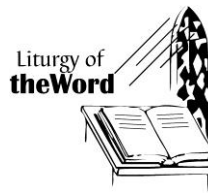
October Contributions	\$ 2,354.00
November Contributions	\$ 2,364.00
December Contributions	\$ 1,844.00

**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 (New Year's Day) will be credited in 2024.

**United Catholic Appeal**  
 (gifts processed as of 12/18)

Parish Goal	\$ 62,294.00
# of gifts received or pledged	75
Amount of gifts received or pledged	\$ 17,710.00

**Readings for December 30/31**

**The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph**

Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14

Colossians 3:12-21

Luke 2:22-40

To read the readings on-line, go to

<https://bible.usccb.org/bible/readings/123123.cfm>

Jan. 1, 2024

**Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God**

Numbers 6:22-27

Galatians 4:4-7

Luke 2:16-21

To read the readings on-line, go to

<https://bible.usccb.org/bible/readings/010124.cfm>

**Readings for January 6/7, 2024**

**The Epiphany of the Lord**

Isaiah 60:1-6

Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6

Matthew 2:1-12

To read the readings on-line, go to

<https://bible.usccb.org/bible/readings/010724.cfm>

**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 and 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](http://www.HearGodsCall.com).


**NATIONAL**  
**Eucharistic**  
**Revival**

Registration is now open! The Archdiocese is encouraging strong participation from each of its parishes and the Faithful.

As the host archdiocese, we have been provided with a discount code, Indy24, which reduces the cost of individual passes from \$375 to \$274.

The complete schedule is out now with a list of featured speakers. You can check it out at their website.

<https://www.eucharisticcongress.org/schedule>

The final Mass at Lucas Oil stadium on Sunday, July 21, 2024, will include the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra.

The Adventuresome Group will not meet in January.

Our next meeting will be in February.

**Church Bulletin Advertising**

Ed Diehl, representing our Bulletin Publisher, Diocesan, is currently seeking new advertisements. Support our parish while you promote your business in print and digitally through social media. If interested, please contact Ed directly or call the parish office. Only a third down payment is required to reserve an ad.

**Contact**

**Ed Diehl**  
[ediehl@diocesan.com](mailto:ediehl@diocesan.com)  
**614-309-7261**



**DIOCESAN**  
 Catholic Life Every Day

*Thanks to you and Diocesan, the bulletin is published weekly at no cost to the parish!*

**CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE**

**WEEKEND MASSES JANUARY 6 & 7**  
**SOLEMNITY 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.)

**LITTLE FLOWER ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION**

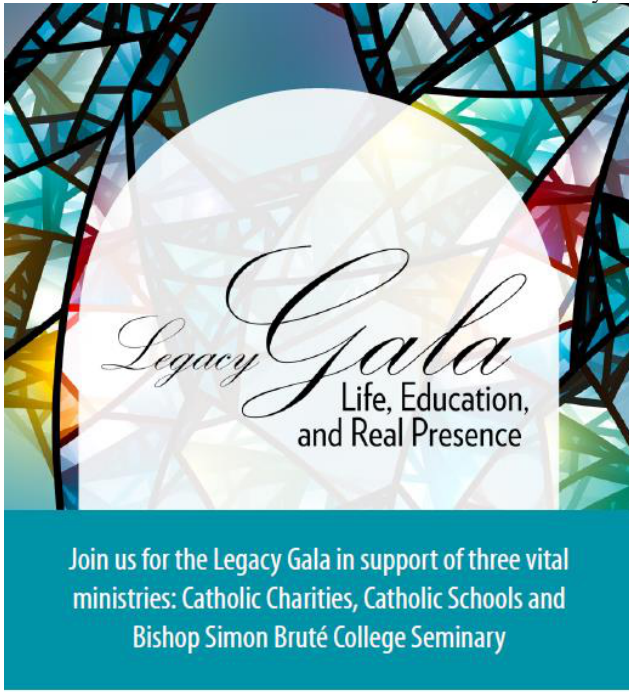
Calling out to anyone who is looking to get involved in the gym. Even for an hour? Come and help at the door or concession stand. Watch and cheer on the Little Flower teams to victory! Get out of the house and help the Little Flower Community in any way you are able. If you are looking to volunteer and be involved, please email the Athletic Association at [athletics@littleflowerparish.org](mailto:athletics@littleflowerparish.org).

Go to [orgsonline.com](http://orgsonline.com) to register now. School Code 165LF-IN. We are looking for Coaches and Volunteers. 2024 Sports are registering now!!!!

- Wrestling (Lourdes code: 171OLLS-IN)
- Boys Volleyball
- Co-Ed 5th-8th Grade Soccer
- Co-Ed Track
- Spring Girls Kickball

Come to the next Athletic Association meeting on Wednesday, January 10, at 6:00 p.m. All are Welcome!





*Legacy Gala*  
Life, Education,  
and Real Presence

Join us for the Legacy Gala in support of three vital ministries: Catholic Charities, Catholic Schools and Bishop Simon Bruté College Seminary



Also help us celebrate  
this year's honoree,  
Sister Shirley Gerth



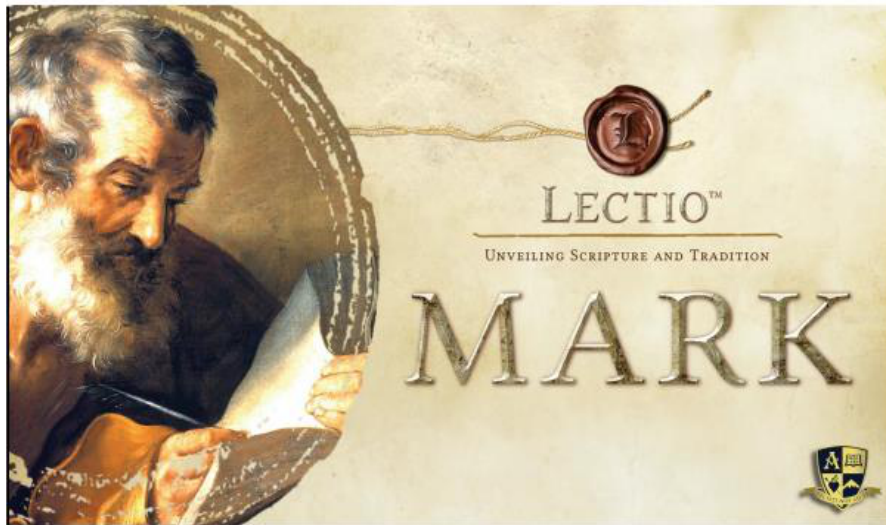
*Little Flower*  
**OPEN HOUSE**  
**JANUARY 28, 2023**  
**10:30AM-12:30PM**

Learn about our  
"The Little Way"!

Come explore our  
classrooms, STEM  
lab and much more

1401 N. Bosart Indianapolis  
IN 46201  
317-353-2282  
[littleflowerparishschool.org](http://littleflowerparishschool.org)

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The First Gospel. The Shortest Gospel. St. Mark tells us St. Peter's account of Christ's life and teaching. You will understand Mark- and Jesus-in a new way. Study Guides Available

**Evenings:** Cafeteria, 6:30 pm  
starting **Tuesday, January 9th**  
**Afternoons:** Parish Center,  
1:00 pm, starting **Thursday,**  
**January 11th.**

This 14 Episode series will have 7  
sessions prior to Easter and 7 after



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