"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, Administrator: 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

Kurt Schnell

Bernie Sponsel Greg Slisz

Cindy Woods Holly Hodges Carol Wehlage

Patrick Becker

Kelly Dunn

Lauren Lay OPEN POSITION

Katie Leszcynski

Michele Rosenbaum Catharine Diehr

Lisa Gibbons (interim)

Kevin Gawrys, Principal: KGawrys@littleflowerparish.org Tom Costello, Music Director: TCostello@littleflowerparish.org Jacob Comley, Maintenance Director:

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 At-Large Member

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES Mass

5:00 PM Saturday: 9:30 AM, 6:00 PM Sunday: 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

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,

Tomorrow is the transferred Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, a Holyday of Obligation. Masses will be at 9:30 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. The 9:30 a.m. Mass will be an all-school Mass.

On Thursday, 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.

Saturday, December 14, is the 29th 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 Saturday, please pray for him and for our parish.

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

Thanks to the members of the Parish Life Commission for hosting Journey into Advent: Faith, Family, & Fun on November 25th and thanks to the families who attended.

Within a week we lost three of our Outstanding Alumni from our wall of honor. Sr. Barbara Hileman, OSF, Class of 1948, died on November 22, 2024, at the Motherhouse in Oldenburg, Indiana. She was born on December 25, 1933. Sr. Barb served as a teacher, principal, Director of Religious Education, Mission Coordinator, and Chaplain.

Elaine (Veerkamp) Jerrell, Class of 1962, died on Saturday, November 23rd. She was an outstanding educator at Roncalli High School. In a talk at Scecina, Roncalli's then President said that his three best teachers were graduates of Scecina. They were Elaine Jerrell, Gerard Striby, and Ryan Costello. What he did not mention was that they were all graduates of Little Flower as well.

Mike Boyle, Class of '51, died on Thanksgiving Day. In 1959, Mike was hired as part of the Ford College Graduate Program and started as an accountant. Ford always encouraged community service, so that was his start in volunteering. For just one example, he advised the Warren Township School Board and developed the first accounting curriculum for the Walker Career Center. He also taught a once-a-week class on how to balance a checkbook at Scecina for two semesters and at Perry Meridian and Southport for one semester. We recognized him for his volunteerism. His funeral will be here at Little Flower on Friday, December 13, at 10:00 a.m.

Also, Sr. Teresa Marie Boersig died on Monday, November 25, at the age of 92. In 1950, she entered the novitiate of the Franciscan Sisters of Oldenburg. She taught in various schools and eventually graduated from Marian College (now a University). She received a Masters degree in mathematics from the University of Notre Dame and a Doctorate from Purdue. She returned to teach at Marian. She was gradually drawn to contemplative life and transferred to the Carmelite Monastary, which was then a mile from the college.

Finally, we celebrated the funeral Liturgy for Mary Helen Eckrich, 95, on Monday, November 25. She was the mother of Teresa Eckrich who was Little Flower's Music Director and Music Teacher for 30+ years. Mary Helen herself was a respected and well liked educator at Scecina Memorial High School.

Please pray for all of them and their families.

Have a wonderful week.

fr. Bob

Thank you to everyone who took tags off the Giving Tree. Please be sure to return your wrapped gifts, with the original tag attached to the outside of the gift, on the **weekend of December 14-15**, <u>or to the parish office no later than Monday</u>, December 16.



Mass Intentions

For the Week of December 9 - 15, 2024

09	December	Monday
	9:30 a.m.	Jane Bell by the Legion of Mary
	6:00 p.m.	For the People
10	December	Tuesday
	5:30 p.m.	John F. Murphy by Patrick & Beth
	•	Murphy
11 December		Wednesday
	11:00 a.m.	Bobbie Lawless by Martin & Marilyn
		Zellinger
12	December	Thursday
	9:30 a.m	Mildred Mauer
13	December	Friday
		No Mass
14 December Saturday -		Saturday – The Vigil of the Third of
		Advent
	5:00 p.m.	Helena Rikke by Jim & Pat Brouwer
15	December	Third Sunday of Advent
	9:30 a.m.	For the People
	6:00 p.m.	Susan Watson by Jane Gilmore
		-

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 - May 2024	497			
June 2024 - August 2024	469			
September 2024 - November 2024				
December 2024 (thru 12/1)				



We remember our parishioner, **Mary Helen Eckrich,** who passed away on November 20 and whose funeral was celebrated here on

November 25. Mary Helen was the mother of Teresa Eckrich. She was a member of the Little Flower Adult Choir for years, as well as a teacher at Scecina until her retirement. We remember **Elaine Veerkamp Jerrell**, sister of *Dianna Deputy, Bev Moore*, and *Steve Veerkamp*, and aunt of *Elizabeth Mann*, who passed away November 23 and whose funeral liturgy was celebrated at St. Jude Church on November 27. We extend our sympathy to Jeff and Cathy Wellner on the death of Jeff's brother Keith Wellner, who recently passed away. Please keep these families in your thoughts and prayers during this difficult time. May God welcome Mary Helen, Elaine, and Keith into his eternal glory.

🖊 THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

December 8 - 15, 2024

DAY	ROOM	TIME	GROUP			
Sunday	Ladies Club Bake Sale after all Masses					
	New Parishion	ner Registration after all Masses				
	Church	9:30 a.m.	Children's Liturgy			
	Duffey Hall	10:30 a.m.	Christmas Party			
	(school café)					
	Holy Family	7:00 p.m.	Youth Group			
	(Parish Center)	1	1			
Monday						
Tuesday	St. Patrick	5:00 p.m.	SVDP Servware			
	(Parish Center)	-	Training			
	St. Therese	7:00 p.m.	OCIA			
	(Parish Center)	-				
	Church	7:00 p.m.	Christmas Choir			
Wednesday	Church/PC	11:00 a.m.	Adventuresome Group			
v	St. Therese	5:00 p.m.	SVDP			
	(Parish center)	F				
	Duffey Hall	6:30 p.m.	Outreach Craft Night			
	(school café)	1				
	Church	7:00 p.m.	Little Stories			
Thursday	St. Therese	1:00 p.m.	Bible Study			
	(Parish center)					
	St. Therese	6:00 p.m.	Women's AA			
	(Parish Center)	1	Workshop			
	St. Patrick	6:30 p.m.	Euchre			
	(Parish Center)					
	Duffey Hall	7:00 p.m.	Little Flower Athletic			
	(school café)	-	Association			
	St. Therese	8:00 p.m.	AA			
	(Parish Center)	-				
Friday	St. Therese	4:00 p.m.	Legion of Mary			
	(Parish Center)	_				
	Duffey Hall	6:00 p.m.	PPS Parents Night			
	(school café)		Out			
Saturday	St. Patrick	7:00 a.m.	Men's Prayer Group			
	(Parish Center)					
		Blood Pressure Check after all Masses.				
Sunday	Church	9:30 a.m.	Children's Liturgy			
	School	10:30 a.m.	Religious Ed			
	Duffey Hall	10:30 a.m.	Coffee and Donuts			
	(school café)					
	St. Therese	7:00 p.m.	Youth Group			
	(Parish center)					



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 a strict deadline for bulletin submissions. Please make note of the changes.

Christmas & New Years Schedule

- December 29 bulletin submissions are <u>due by</u> Wednesday December 18, by noon.
- January 5 bulletin submissions are <u>due by Monday</u>, December 23 by Noon.

ST. THERESE - LITTLE FLOWER ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

December 8, 2024



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

Bill Ajamie, Tricia Allstatt, Fr. Mike Barton, Marylyn Blackwell, Esther

Capps, Joe Clegg, Mark Clevenger, Dan Dugan, Sherri (Ruegamer) Dugger, Joanna Estes, Forestal Family, Carol Freeland, Olivia Garrison, Haydee Gloria, Margie Greene, Mary Lou Hoggatt, Lois Irwin, Carrie Jones, John Jones, Bob Lawless, Bobby Leszcynski, Karen Lientz, Larry Lynch, Catherine McKenna-Sexton, Richard Mattingly, Sally Meth, Gene Miller, Carol Murphy, Jimmy Murphy, Mike Payne, Ray Quinn, Bill Rathz, Judy Rathz, Mary Rector, Scott Rhinehart, Lourdes Riedeman, 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:

> Lois Irwin, C/O Stan Irwin 5305 Sunset Avenue, Rocky Ripple, IN 46208

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 in Tokyo, Japan – nephew of Rita Cooning.

Aden S. Haigerty, United States Navy, serving with Naval Security Forces, Deveselu, Romania - 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.

Zach Meyer, Marine Reserve in South Bend, son-in-law of Dave and Dora Hughey.

lan Carter, serving on the Dwight D. Eisenhower Aircraft Carrier in the Persian Gulf, great nephew of Pauline and Charlie Graf.

Lexi Robertson. Naval Submarine Base. New London. CT., granddaughter of Barb Bruce

Riley Allstatt, serving at the San Diego Marine Basic Camp, son of Mark and Christa Allstatt and grandson of Dave and Charlotte Allstatt.

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.



The Adventuresome Group will meet on Wednesday, December 11, following 11:00 a.m. Mass to celebrate Christmas. Our guests will be the kindergarten classes and Fr. Bob will read them the book, The Night Before Christmas. Please come and bring a friend. The more the merrier! Please call Jeanne in the Parish Office, 317-357-8352, to let us know you are coming.



If your family took an Advent Cake bag last weekend, please remember to send pictures of your decorated cake to Peggy by either text, 317-403-7444 or by email, pclegg@littleflowerparish.org.



Free tickets to the Festival of Trees, which runs from now through January 4, at the Indiana Historical Society are available in the parish office. This year you will need to scan a OR code, choose the date you wish to attend, and fill in the

code on your ticket in order to get your free ticket. Tickets are limited so please call the parish office, 317-357-8352, to reserve your ticket. If you need help with the QR code, please talk to Jeannie in the parish office.



Readings for December 9 Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary Genesis 3:9-15, 20 Ephesians 1:3-6, 11-12 Luke 1:26-38 To read the readings on-line, go to https://bible.usccb.org/bible/readings/120924.cfm

Readings for December 14 and 15 Third Sunday of Advent Zephaniah 3:14-18a Philipppians 4:4-7 Luke 3:10-18 To read the readings on-line, go to https://bible.usccb.org/bible/readings/121524.cfm

ADVENT/CHRISTMAS 2024 – EPIPHANY 2025 CALENDAR

MONDAY, DECEMBER 9 SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION (Holy Day of Obligation) Solemnity transferred to Monday December 9 9:30 A.M. & 6:00 P.M. Masses (No anticipation Mass)

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14/SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15

Third Sunday of Advent - Regular Mass Schedule PLEASE RETURN YOUR GIVING TREE GIFTS TO CHURCH THIS WEEKEND OR TO THE PARISH OFFICE NO LATER THAN 3 P.M. ON MONDAY, DECEMBER 16

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19 - 6:00 P.M. SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM FOR GRADES K **THROUGH 5**

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21/SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22 Fourth Sunday of Advent - Regular Mass Schedule

DECEMBER 24 AND 25 CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve, Tuesday, 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, Wednesday, December 25th - 9:30 A.M.

DECEMBER 28 AND 29 - FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY, AND JOSEPH Anticipation Mass, Saturday at 5:00 P.M. Sunday at 9:30 A.M. & 6:00 P.M. Full Christmas Choir at 9:30 A.M. Mass (music begins at 9:15 A.M.)

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 1 SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD Masses on Tuesday, December 31 at 6:00 P.M. (Anticipation Mass) and Wednesday, January 1 at 9:30 A.M.

JANUARY 4 AND 5 SOLEMNITY OF THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD.

Anticipation Mass, Saturday at 5:00 P.M., Sunday at 9:30 A.M. & 6:00 P.M. Full Christmas Choir at 9:30 A.M. Mass (Music begins at 9:15 A.M.)



Calling all artists young and old! This is the fourth year our parish has made a gift for our neighbors for Christmas. This year we have wooden joy nativity ornaments! We need your help painting! Our goal is 200 households this year! Our craft night will be in the school cafeteria Wednesday, December 11, 6

p.m. to 8 p.m. (Feel free to leave early to enjoy the Little Stories in the church). We also need your help distributing them to our neighbors on Saturday, December 14 at 2 p.m. You can call Mandie Wade (317-410-5762) if you have any questions.



Leave the Light On – Day of Reconciliation Priests available for confession

Monday, December 9, 2024 / 9 a.m. – 7 p.m.

Description: Our doors will be open for anyone who wants to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation. The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed during this time in our Chapel for anyone who would also like to visit with Jesus in Adoration.

Registration: Not required; no appointment necessary (There may be some waiting time depending on time of day).

Advent Days of Silence Self-Directed

Tuesday, December 10, 2024 – Wednesday, December 11, 2024 - Thursday, December 12, 2024 / 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Description: These days are unscheduled and give retreatants the opportunity to prepare for the Birth of Christ during Advent as they "unplug" from the outside world in a relaxed, calm and quiet setting. Come for one, a couple or all three days! Overnight stay(s) can be added for an additional fee – see below. Registration: \$45 per person; includes lunch, Mass, private room for the day and access to restful areas within the retreat house and grounds.

Outdoor Stations of the Nativity Led by Fr. Keith Hosey

Sunday, December 15, 2024 / 2 p.m. – 3 p.m.

Description: Fr. Keith Hosey will lead us in these Outdoor Stations as we journey from the Annunciation through the Flight into Egypt and will include reflections that will help us prepare our hearts for the Seasons of Advent and Christmas.

Registration: Not required – we'd love you to join us! (Note if weather does not permit us to be outdoors, we will pray them in the Chapel)

To register online, please visit //www.archindy.org/fatima select "Program Registration" at the top of the page and scroll through calendar to find this program. You may also contact our Registrar, Lisa Coons at (317) 545-7681; lcoons@archindy.org



DINNER PLATES NEEDED!

We are in need of dinner plates to put in the kitchen boxes that we give out to neighbors in need. Plates do NOT need

Serving Central and Southern Indiana Loving Our Neighbors for 75 Years

to be new. Gently used donations are welcome, too. Please bring donations to our Distribution Center (1201 Maryland Street) from 10 a.m.- 4 p.m. Monday - Saturday. Thanks for helping us care for our neighbors!

STEWARDSHIP CORNER

Your Gifts of Treasure

Weekly Budget Goal	\$	13,300.00				
Collection of November 23 and 24	\$	6,136.97				
Electronic Contributions 11/18-11/22	\$	6,040.79				
Collection of November 30 and December 1	\$	7,062.36				
Electronic Contributions 11/25-11/29	\$	3,584.70				
Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Actual	\$	280,679.20				
Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Budget	\$	292,600.00				
Fiscal Year 2024-2025 YTD DEFICIT	\$	- 11,920.80				
Home Improvement Fund						
October Contributions	\$2,	595.75				
November Contributions	\$2,	332.00				
December Contributions (to date)	\$ (607.00				

PLEASE NOTE

PLEASE NOTE: If you would like a donation to be credited in 2024, it must be received in the collection no later than the weekend of December 28/29 or the parish office by December 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 2025.

November 10 was Intention Sunday for the Archdiocesan United Catholic Appeal: Christ our Hope. Christ our Hope provides year-long 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, or did not fill one out at church last weekend, please do so 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 don't 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.



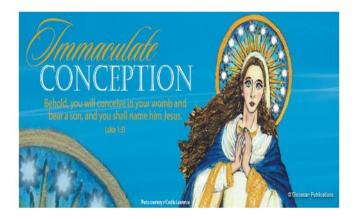




Church Cleaning Ministry

The head of the Church Cleaning ministry is stepping down to focus on other responsibilities. We need someone to step into this role and keep the ministry alive and thriving! If you are an enthusiastic person who takes pride in our beautiful church, please prayerfully

consider leading this ministry. Duties include scheduling the cleaning teams, washing towels, and general communication with volunteers and staff. Most of the duties can be done on your own schedule. If you have additional questions, please reach out to Angie Mackell at <u>amackell@littleflowerparish.org</u> or 317-357-8352, ext. 102.



December 8, 2024

The Invite Commission is hosting the:

Little Stories Series

December 11th Little Stories about Gratitude & Christmas!

Join your fellow parishioners, staff, teachers, and students for stories of sharing about their personal experiences with gratitude and special Christmases. Stories are accompanied by musical selections. Programs will begin at 7:00 p.m. in the church and will last one hour.







The Businesses listed above make this bulletin possible. Please support them when you can.

Sign up to get our bulletin in your email each week. Go to DiscoverMass.com/subscribe