

# St. Teresa Catholic Church \_\_\_\_\_

1201 Lebanon Avenue, Belleville, IL 62221-4095

618-233-3500 [www.stteresabelleville.com](http://www.stteresabelleville.com)



2015

Guide Book & Directory

# St. Teresa of the Child Jesus

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**1201 Lebanon Avenue • Belleville, Illinois 62221  
618-233-3500**

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

The parish of St. Teresa is comprised of peoples of all ages coming together in prayer, worship, and reception of Sacraments as expressions of faith in the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

As a parish all are asked to give of themselves in time, treasure and talent for the common good. This Guide Book and Directory is offered so that you might learn more about the many activities, services and programs as you are invited to participate so that we may carry out the mission of the parish as disciples of our Lord.

This Guide Book will serve as a ready reference and information of what is available both in the parish and local community and the individuals to contact regarding any particular activity, event, committee or board. Hopefully this book will also benefit new members of the parish who wish to be better informed and seek greater parish involvement.

This Parish Directory is made possible by some local businesses. Their participation allows us to provide this book free of any expense to the parish. We thank them for their generosity and ask you to support them. Please keep this reference handy and use it as best fits your needs.

As your parish priest, I encourage you to become actively involved in the programs of our parish and to inform me if the directory does not address a particular area of interest to you.

Sincerely yours,

Monsignor David M. Darin  
*Pastor*

## Saint Teresa Parish Statement of Mission

Through our Baptism and Sacramental Life as Roman Catholics, we become a part of the Body of Christ. Guided by St. Teresa, our patron, and the Communion of Saints, we aspire to be living witnesses of the Gospel by loving and serving one another and reaching out to all others with the Love of Christ.

## Our Parish History

St. Teresa Parish was founded in 1926 by the Most Reverend Henry Althoff, Bishop of Belleville. The parish was formed out of the existing parishes of the Cathedral of St. Peter and St. Luke, and put under the protection of St. Teresa of the Child Jesus—also known as “The Little Flower.”

The first pastor, Rev. William Hoff, arrived in Belleville on January 7, 1926, and temporarily took up residence at the Cathedral. Shortly thereafter, that initial “parish family,” which consisted of approximately 120 families of German-American descent, purchased two homes on property located in the 1100 block of Lebanon Avenue. One would be used for a rectory and the other for a convent. They also decided to build a church and a school on the property. The church and school were dedicated on August 29, 1926, and the school opened on September 7th with an enrollment of 135 pupils. The School Sisters of Notre Dame took up residence in the parish on September 21, 1926. To accomplish all of this in one year was quite a feat for such a small number of households.

By 1950 the parish had grown to nearly 500 families, and there was need for additional educational space. On May 28, 1951 ground was broken for a new school, which was dedicated by the Most Reverend Albert R. Zuroweste on September 7, 1952.

With the death of Msgr. Hoff on June 1, 1955, Msgr. Joseph Stenger was appointed the second pastor of St. Teresa’s on August 1, 1955. Perhaps most significant under his leadership was the purchase of the Star-Peerless Brewery property for \$54,000 in 1958, which ultimately became the site of the present-day church and rectory. Ground was broken for this construction project on January 3, 1965, and dedication ceremonies were held on May 7, 1967.

Msgr. Stenger’s unexpected death occurred in September, 1971, and Msgr. Laurence J. O’Connell succeeded him. Even though the pastorate of Msgr. O’Connell was extremely short, having passed away on March 19, 1975, his life-long interest in education was instrumental in providing a much needed library for the school.

Msgr. Cletus Cunningham served as the fourth pastor of St. Teresa Parish. He was appointed in 1975 and served until 1982. The responsibility of providing educational and growth opportunities for the whole child was enhanced during his pastorate with the purchase of additional frontage property adjoining the school grounds on Church Street, and the subsequent building of a gymnasium, several classrooms and a fully-equipped kitchen.

Fr. Robert Dollar followed Msgr. Cunningham as pastor. He continued the implementation of church reform mandated by the Second Vatican Council. The beauty of our parish grounds was enhanced by undertaking a major landscaping project, as well as the erection of an informational sign at the entrance of the church property. Again, property was purchased on Lebanon Avenue for expansion of the school playground area.

In July, 1991, the parish fully realized the national shortage of religious vocations, when the School Sisters of Notre Dame ceased their presence in the staffing of our parish school.

Fr. Louis Peterson became the sixth pastor of St. Teresa Parish on June 24, 1991. The parish, now the second largest in the Diocese of Belleville had a membership of over 1,450 households. The school had an enrollment of 298 children in Kindergarten through Eighth Grade, while 192 children were enrolled in the Parish School of Religion. Fr. Peterson was granted a leave of absence in January of 1994.

Several priests served as Administrators from January until the end of June, 1994.

Fr. Donald W. Eichenseer served as parish administrator from July of 1994 until he was named the seventh pastor of the parish in November of 1995. In May of 2000, Fr. Eichenseer was recommended, by Bishop Wilton D. Gregory to be named a “Prelate of Honor of His Holiness” and given the title “Monsignor.” Under his leadership a new addition to the school was completed in July of 2000 providing a parish meeting area, eight classrooms, an elevator, handicapped accessibility and additional parking.

Fr. John L. Venegoni, was appointed the eighth pastor of St. Teresa Parish by Bishop Wilton Gregory on September 2, 2003. Fr. Venegoni restructured the Pastoral Council, greatly reduced the parish debt owed on the new addition, improved the lighting around the grounds, and installed air-conditioning to seven of the original classrooms. Fr. Venegoni was granted a medical leave of absence in July of 2007 and passed away October 11, 2007.

The current pastor, Fr. David Darin, was appointed the ninth pastor of St. Teresa’s by Bishop Edward K. Braxton on July 10, 2007. In April of 2012, Fr. Darin was recommended, by Bishop Edward K. Braxton, to be named a “Chaplain to His Holiness” and given the title “Monsignor.”



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## St. Teresa

Teresa was born January 2, 1873, at Alencon, France, and was baptized January 4, 1873, just two days later. Her first Holy Communion was made on May 8, 1884, and she was confirmed June 14, 1884.

She was the youngest of nine children. However, only five of these children survived infancy. Her parents were Mr. and Mrs. Louis Martin. Mr. Martin was a jeweler and watchmaker and Mrs. Martin a devoted mother. Both were outstanding examples of ideal parents since they were deeply pious and upright Catholics. The atmosphere of their home was so permeated with kindness and love that Teresa relates that it often reminded her of what heaven would be like. What an example for mothers and fathers to emulate! These loving parents were ultimately the prime influence and inspiration of their children's lives.

Mrs. Martin died of cancer when Teresa was only four and one half years old. Her grief knew no bounds at the loss of her beloved mother. At this time her oldest sister, Pauline, took over the management of the affairs of the household. Since Teresa was a very affectionate child she soon became attached to Pauline and referred to her as her "second mother." Thus, when Pauline entered Carmel, Teresa, who was about ten years old, could hardly bear the pain of another major separation in her life. Then Teresa developed a serious and mysterious disease. She seemed incurable and at the point of death. Nonetheless, she assured her anxious father that she would be well for the day of Pauline's Investiture at Carmel. During the time of her illness, Teresa prayed even more fervently to our heavenly Mother. A statue of Our Lady was always in her bedroom. The day of Pauline's Investiture, Teresa was present, well and overjoyed. Subsequently, Louise and Celine followed Pauline into Carmel while Leonie entered the Order of the Visitation. It is interesting to note that Celine, Sister Genevieve, lived until 1956.

Teresa had a burning desire to enter Carmel and there to pray, sacrifice and do penance for souls. She thought that by entering the cloister and leading a contemplative life while praying and sacrificing for missionaries, she could do more for the mission work of the Church than by actually becoming a missionary and working only one isolated area of the missions. But the entrance age was sixteen and she was only fourteen. Therefore, she resolved to ask the Holy Father himself if he might allow her the special favor of entering Carmel before she had reached her sixteenth birthday. As a member of a French pilgrimage, the "Little Queen" and her father visited Rome on November 20, 1887, on the occasion of the sacerdotal jubilee of Pope Leo XIII. As he approached her in private audience, Teresa boldly asked the Holy Father: "In honor of your jubilee, allow me to enter Carmel at fifteen." "You shall enter if it be God's will," the Holy Father replied.

At the end of that same year, the Bishop of the diocese gave her permission to enter Carmel even though he had previously denied her petition. On April 9, 1888, the long awaited day arrived—Teresa entered the Carmel of Lisieux. Her life as a member of the Order of Carmel was not characterized by any unusual events. She resolved to do the ordinary things in an extraordinary way for the love of God, for souls and especially for priests and missionaries. Teresa did not miss the least opportunity to offer even the smallest acts to God through love. She remarked on one occasion: “I am a very little Soul, who can only offer very little things to Our Lord.” Thus she became known as the saint of the “Little Way.” Yet, St. Teresa knew that each person must depend upon God.

Teresa was appointed assistant to the Novice Mistress when she was twenty years old. Later, it was discovered that she was suffering from tuberculosis. After weeks of excruciating suffering and agony, she died at the age of 24, on September 30, 1897, repeating: “Oh! I love Him!...My God, I love You!” Her life was short and simple, but full of courage, love and generosity.

Our Saint had promised while she was alive to “spend my heaven doing good upon earth,” and to send forth a “shower of roses.” How well she kept her promises can be attested to by the numerous miracles that have been performed through her intercession.

Teresa was beatified by Pope Pius XI on April 29, 1923, and on May 17, 1925, the same Pope, in a formal solemn canonization ceremony, proclaimed her a Saint of God. In May of 1927 she was named the Patroness of all Foreign Missions. She also has been proclaimed one of the patronesses of France. And less than seven months after her canonization, this parish was established and named in honor of Saint Teresa.



# Saint Teresa Parish Grade School

## Mission Statement

St. Teresa School, a direct apostolate of St. Teresa Church, exists to pass on the Catholic Faith and its religious values by immersing the student within a Christ-centered environment.

Our students are provided the opportunity to experience both academic excellence and an awareness of current social concerns. This will be accomplished by a continued partnership of St. Teresa Church, families, students, and staff.

Within the limits of our resources and facilities, we are committed to the children and their families from the parish of St. Teresa, who desire a Catholic education.

## Philosophy

Education at St. Teresa School is a gradual development of the human person through the inspiration of the Divine. It is a continuation and an enrichment of what is begun in the home that strives to develop the spiritual, academic, social, and psychological aspects of the child.

The philosophy of the school is based on the principle that Catholic schools are to be communities of faith, in which the Christian message, the experience of community, worship, and social concern are integrated in the total educational experience of the students, their parents, and members of the faculty.

Our school, in accordance with the above principles established by the United States bishops in their most recent *Catechetical Directory, Sharing the Light of Faith*, focuses on trying to maintain the highest possible standards of education. As a faith community and as members of an educational institution, the faculty of St. Teresa School determines specific objectives each year to further the accomplishment of these goals.

In order to achieve the knowledge and skills required by our society for genuine participation and leadership in the world of tomorrow, as well as to achieve the openness of mind and generosity of spirit needed to attain a sincere concern for all humanity, it is presumed that parents who enroll their children in St. Teresa School will share this responsibility for their children.



## Ronald P. Ames, Jr., DMD

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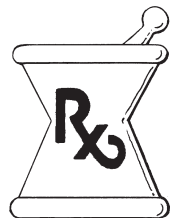
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# School Board Long Range Planning Committee

## Goals

**Building and Grounds** St. Teresa School will create and implement a facilities master plan which outlines the school's needs for equipment and space utilization, capital improvement and facilities maintenance.

**Catholic Identity and The Parish Family** St. Teresa School will improve and promote a strong Catholic identity within the community that establishes a shared vision among all stakeholders. St. Teresa School will further establish and maintain a cohesive environment that recognizes a common vision of the school and the church collectively as one parish.

**Communications** St. Teresa School will highlight its positive aspects and generate goodwill by facilitating timely and formal communications, which will support Christian values and promote our image, perception and reputation, thus enabling the parish to attract and retain families and generate a favorable response to fundraising as an investment in the future.

**Curriculum and Technology** St. Teresa School will continue to update curriculum and co-curricular activities to meet the needs of all students with emphasis on technology and on improvement of Iowa Basic Skills test scores.

**Development** St. Teresa School will maximize the number of contributors by increasing the number of participants and amount of contributions made for financial support of the school and school functions.

**Enrollment** St. Teresa School will continue proactive marketing plan to target families and drive an enrollment management initiative.

**Finance** St. Teresa School will provide a plan to build financial strength within the parish by offering a competitive tuition structure that will draw and retain students, implementing a proactive cash management plan, practicing fiscal responsibility, and adhering to best accounting practices.

**Ownership and Governance** St. Teresa School will adopt optimal policies and procedures to guide the children's Catholic education.

**Staffing** St. Teresa School will continue to attract and retain qualified staff and volunteers with appropriate skills and certifications. This would be confirmed through continuous evaluation and professional development to maximize the quality of the Catholic education so as to be consistent with parish expectations and to enhance academic growth.

# Parish Organizations and Activities Liturgy

**ALTAR SERVERS** - The privilege of serving at the Altar is open to boys and girls of the parish from grades five into adulthood. If you are interested in serving, please contact the rectory at 233-3500.

**EXTRA-ORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION** - Serve the gathered assembly by distributing the Body and Blood of Christ during the celebration of the Eucharist. Assistance is needed for all weekend and weekday Masses. If you are interested in this special ministry of service call the rectory at 233-3500.

**GIFT BEARERS (Newly Reorganized!)** - We have always had individuals or families to present the bread and wine at Mass, but we are taking it to the next level. Parents and kids together, even with grandparents or other family members, can be scheduled for each weekend Mass to present the bread and wine at the Preparation of the Gifts. Two people will carry the gifts, but your whole family can walk together in the procession. As one of our simplest roles, this is a great way to involve younger children in a liturgical ministry! Time commitment: check in 10 minutes before Mass begins, scheduled a few times per year based on your availability. Contact: Scott Pluff at 233-3500 or [liturgy.stteresa@gmail.com](mailto:liturgy.stteresa@gmail.com)

**LECTORS** - Proclaim the Word of God at weekend, holy day and other liturgies throughout the year. Contact the rectory at 233-3500.

**LITURGY COMMITTEE** - The Liturgy Committee coordinates the worship life of the parish by planning, organizing and evaluating. Ongoing education is an important part of this committee. Contact the rectory at 233-3500.

**LITURGY OF THE WORD FOR CHILDREN** - The Sunday Readings are read and explained for children from kindergarten through 4th grade with the sessions taking place after the opening prayer in the rectory basement during the 11:00 am Sunday Mass. Contact the rectory at 233-3500.

**MINISTERS OF CARE** - As extra-ordinary ministers of Holy Communion these individuals specialize in bringing communion and conversation to the parishioner who is a shut-in or a resident of a nursing home. For information please call David & Marilyn Young at 235-8798.

**NOVENA TO ST. TERESA THE LITTLE FLOWER** - The Novena to our patron, St. Teresa of the Child Jesus and the Holy Face, is held immediately following the 8:15 am Mass on the First Monday of every month.

**OUTDOOR GREETERS (NEW!) -** Open to individuals, couples, or whole families. While our Ushers focus on welcoming and serving people inside the church, our Outdoor Greeters will extend that feeling of welcome outside of the church building. Your ministry is to stand outside our front or side entrances, greet everyone with a warm smile and good morning!, and open the door for every person as they enter. This ministry goes on rain or shine, hot or cold, so dress accordingly. This is a great way for families to serve together. You can build up our faith community while building up your arm muscles as you open that door for everyone! Time commitment: 20 minutes before Mass then you are done, scheduled roughly once a month based on your availability. Contact: Scott Pluff at 233-3500 or [liturgy.stteresa@gmail.com](mailto:liturgy.stteresa@gmail.com)

**ROSARY -** Join us for praying the Rosary before the 8:15 am Mass Monday-Wednesday-Friday.

**USHERS AND USHER FAMILIES (Newly Expanded!) -** Open to individuals, couples, or whole families. These are the primary ministers who welcome guests and visitors to our church and serve the needs of the assembly. Parents and kids together can share the tasks of preparing your assigned entrance and section of pews before Mass, greeting people as they arrive, taking up the collection, helping with the Communion procession, passing out bulletins at the end of Mass, and getting your assigned area ready for the next celebration. Time commitment: 20 minutes before Mass, 10 minutes after Mass, scheduled roughly once a month based on your availability. Contact: Scott Pluff at 233-3500 or [liturgy.stteresa@gmail.com](mailto:liturgy.stteresa@gmail.com)

## Music

**SATURDAY CHOIR -** This choir sings weekly throughout the year at the 5:00 Saturday Mass. This group focuses on contemporary songs along with some traditional chants and hymns. Membership: open to all ages, call to discuss placement. Skill Level: ability to read music is a plus but not required. Rehearsal: Saturdays at 4:15 pm. Commitment: flexible, regular attendance is helpful. Contact: Scott Pluff at 233-3500 or [liturgy.stteresa@gmail.com](mailto:liturgy.stteresa@gmail.com)

**SUNDAY CHOIR -** This choir sings at the 9:00 Sunday Mass on the first, third and fifth Sundays, the 11:00 Sunday Mass on the second and fourth Sundays and for some feast days September through June. In addition to its primary role of leading the assembly in sung prayer, this group also sings choral anthems as an offering to God and for prayerful contemplation by the assembly. Membership: open to 7th grade students through adult, call to discuss placement. Skill Level: ability to read music is a plus but not required. Rehearsal: Wednesdays 7:00-8:30 pm. Commitment: regular attendance is ideal. Contact: Scott Pluff

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**CANTORS** - Cantors lead the assembly in sung prayer for parish Masses as well as for weddings, funerals, and other communal celebrations. Membership: open to 7th grade students through adult, call to schedule audition. Skill Level: basic ability to read music is required, along with ability to prepare music in advance. Rehearsal: individually as needed plus occasional group rehearsals. Commitment: scheduling is flexible. Contact: Scott Pluff

**YOUTH CHOIR** - This choir sings at the 11:00 Mass on the first Sunday of each month during the school year, for the all-school Masses on Wednesday mornings. Through this experience, children are exposed to a wide range of liturgical music and are prepared to graduate into our parish's adult choirs. Membership: open to all students in grades 4 - 8 whether they attend St. Teresa School or any other public or private school. Commitment: regular attendance is encouraged, but scheduling is flexible. Contact: Scott Pluff

**ANGEL CHOIR** - This choir is a unique opportunity for children in grades 1, 2 and 3 to join their voices to praise God in song. They sing on the third Sunday of the month at 11:00 Mass and rehearse before that Mass at 10:20. Because younger children may need help to stay focused during Mass, at least one parent is asked to attend and sit with your child. Contact: Scott Pluff

**HANDBELLS** - This group embellishes (no pun intended!) liturgical hymns and acclamations and plays a variety of instrumental pieces at occasional weekend Masses. Membership: open to 7th grade students through adult, call to discuss placement. Skill Level: ability to read music is a plus but not required. A strong sense of rhythm and previous instrumental experience are helpful. Rehearsal: Wednesdays 4:00-5:00 pm. Commitment: regular attendance is required. Contact: Connie Crawford at 233-3500 or [ccrawford@stteresabelleville.org](mailto:ccrawford@stteresabelleville.org)

## Parish Life

**BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY** - An apostolate of Senior Adult Ministry at St. Teresa, the bereavement ministry seeks to comfort the individual parishioner who has lost a spouse or other loved one. Contact is made at the funeral and later a packet of materials is presented to the bereaved individual to help them as they grieve. Finally a letter is sent each month for the first year after the loss to give further assistance in dealing with the process of grief and loneliness. Please call Dave or Marilyn Young at 235-8798 for further information.

**BUILDING AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE** - Inspects and recommends repairs, improvements, upkeep, renovations, maintenance and new construction. Contact the rectory at 233-3500.

**FINANCE COUNCIL** - Finance Council includes the president of the pastoral council, two trustees, three representatives, school board representative, business manager, accountant and the pastor. A parish advisory group who assists the pastor in setting the budget and in administering the parish finances.

**FUNERAL LUNCHEONS** - As needed to prepare funeral luncheons for parishioners. Contact Marilyn Fiedler at 234-5876.

**HEALTH MINISTRY** - Do you work in some aspect of the health field? Are you a doctor, nurse, dietician, or have some other gift you can share with our parish? St. Teresa Health Ministry just may be for you! Our meetings are usually less than 1 hour, and we try to meet quarterly. Due to legal reasons, we cannot visit parishioners at home as part of our ministry. Instead, we have an annual health fair (held in October). We also provide monthly, educational articles to the bulletin; perform blood pressure screenings bi-annually, as well as CPR/AED training for our parish. Contact Barb Masters at 234-5912.

**LEGION OF MARY** - Legion of Mary is a world-wide organization of Catholics, men and women, who offer their services to their pastor for apostolic work in the parish. It aims to sanctify its members by a solid interior life of prayer, which forms the mainspring of a very definite active apostolic activity. This group meets on Thursday evenings at 6:30 pm in the Parish Center. Contact Charles Weyhaupt at 277-1709.

**MEN'S CLUB** - Open to all men of the parish. Monthly meetings are on the second Monday of the month, at 6:30 pm, in the parish center. Enjoy a good meal prior to the meeting as well as fellowship with other parishioners. Contact Pat Hill at 589-3457 for more information.

**PARISH PICNIC** - The Parish Picnic is an all-aged social gathering, open to the public, for fun, food, and fellowship. Our picnic is held on the school grounds by a host of people. Check the parish bulletin for the date of the picnic. Contact the rectory at 233-3500.

**PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION** - The primary purpose of the St. Teresa Parish School of Religion (PSR) Program is to provide assistance and support to the parents of students who attend public schools. St. Teresa Parish has dedicated catechists, aides, and other volunteers who work with parents for the catechesis of their children. Classes are held on Wednesday evenings from 6:45-8:00 pm in St. Teresa School. PSR begins in early September and ends in early May. Students in grades 1-8 may attend these classes. Parents are encouraged to support religious education of their children by the personal practice of the faith, encouraging their children to participate actively in classes, and to assist catechist upon request. For further information, contact the rectory at 233-3500.

**PASTORAL COUNCIL** - Plans, sets goals, establishes policy to develop the life of the parish and promote the mission of the church; composed of members of the parish, representatives from parish organizations, two trustees and the pastoral team. Meetings are held on the last Tuesday of the month at 7:00 pm in the rectory basement. Contact the rectory at 233-3500.

**PERPETUAL ADORATION** - Perpetual Adoration of our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament is offered on a 24 hour basis in the St. Joseph Chapel of St. Teresa Church. Adoration gives you an opportunity for personal, private and quiet prayer any hour of the day or night. You are welcome to come for a designated hour or anytime and remain as long as you wish. Contact Mary Ellen Hermann at 234-4945, for more information.

**PERPETUAL HELP SOCIETY** - The Perpetual Help Society serves the parish, school, and community in various programs. Open to all women of the parish, new members are always welcome. Meetings are on the first Tuesday of each month September through May, at 6:30 pm, in the parish center. Contact Kathleen Hill at 589-3457, for more information.

**PRO-LIFE COMMITTEE** - Informs the parish of recent pro-life matters, encourages letter writing, supplies information on related issues, activates a pro-life phone tree to contact senators and representatives regarding voting and plans activities during pro-life month. Open to all parish members.

**QUILTERS** - Ladies of the parish meet for quilting on Thursdays throughout the year in the rectory basement from 9:30 am until 3:00 pm. Contact Marilyn Fiedler at 234-5876. We welcome anyone who would like to help quilt. Come spend a few hours with us.

**RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE** - Blood drives are held twice a year during the months of September and March in the parish center. Watch the bulletin for further information. Give blood to save a life!

**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY** - The St. Vincent de Paul Society is composed of lay personnel of the parish (both male and female) who assist individuals and families, by actual private personal visits, within the parish boundaries, that are in need of food and financial needs for assistance in utility partial payments, rents, transportation, or pharmacy requirements. Members also assist in the distribution of meals via St. Vincent de Paul bus in the E. St. Louis area once monthly. Funds for the society are obtained by membership donations at monthly meetings and the Poor and Needy Collection at the parish. The Society meets monthly at 6:00 pm on the 2nd Monday of each month. Bernard Lengerman, President and Treasurer. Call 233-6461 for further information.



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**YOUNG AT HEART** - The Young at Heart Club organized February 13, 1990. Membership is open to parishioners 50 years of age and over. The non-Catholic spouse is eligible and welcome. Dues are \$6.00 per year, payable upon joining, and offset postage, stationery, programs, and refreshments. The purpose of the club is to promote the interest and welfare of the mature adult by education, information, social contacts and activities. The club also promotes joint efforts with other Parish organizations to enhance the Parish family. Meetings are held at 6:30 pm in the parish center on the second Wednesday of the month unless otherwise designated. Contact Nancy Zahner at 235-3359, for more information.

## Sacraments

**BAPTISM PREPARATION** - Parents of the first born child are to attend a baptism preparation session prior to baptism. Please call the rectory at 233-3500.

**MARRIAGE PREPARATION** - Helps prepare engaged couples for their lives together as husband and wife and directs them in the planning of their wedding. Discussions should be held with the parish priest at least four months prior to setting a wedding date. Contact the rectory at 233-3500.

**PRECANA** - As part of the requirements prior to marriage, following diocesan guidelines for marriage preparation, a Precana program is offered through the Metro East Vicariate. Contact the rectory at 233-3500.

**RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS-RCIA** - If an adult wishes to join the Catholic Church, he or she is invited to participate in the RCIA Program. The RCIA sessions are currently held on Sunday mornings. The sessions focus on understanding how faith works in our lives, and how we can express it in our own personal prayer life and in the celebration of the sacraments. Various stages of the process are marked by liturgical celebrations during the Sunday Liturgy. The program culminates at the Easter Vigil, when an individual is baptized (if he or she has never been baptized) or makes a profession of faith (if they have been baptized in another religion), is Confirmed, and receives the Eucharist for the first time in the Catholic Church. This program includes Catechists, and Sponsors as well as those interested in the Catholic Faith. For further information on the RCIA Program, or information on how you can become a sponsor or member of the RCIA catechetical team, please contact the rectory at 233-3500.

# School

**ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION** - St. Teresa Athletic Program is to provide an environment where students can develop individual skill, positive attitudes toward themselves and their team, and good sportsmanship toward fellow participants and opposing teams. The Athletic Committee coordinates, supports and conducts all school Athletic programs under the direction of David Pflug 277-8043, Athletic Director.

**EXTENDED CARE** - A program offered from 7:00 am until the time for school and after school until 6:00 pm on school grounds. All grades, Pre-K-8, are invited to participate in this program. Contact Pat Lickenbrock at 235-2039 for more information.

**HIGH SCHOOL-CATHOLIC** - Althoff Catholic High School is located at 5401 West Main Street, Belleville, IL. This High School is open to all Catholic students of high school age residing in the Metro East Vicariate. For any information about enrollment and other matters, contact the school at 235-1100.

**PARENT TEACHER ORGANIZATION** - The St. Teresa Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) was formed in 1990. Objectives:

1. To foster communication and cooperation between family and the school.
2. To develop united efforts in the interest of the physical, mental, social, intellectual and spiritual education of every child.
3. To promote the welfare of children in homes, church and community and create a greater appreciation of Catholic education.
4. To fulfill these objectives through conference, committees, projects and fundraising activities.
5. To provide a labor pool of volunteers to assist at school.

The PTO meetings are held on the fourth Monday of August, November, February, and May at 7:00 pm in the parish center. Membership is open to any parent, faculty member or interested parishioner. Dues are \$1.00 per member per year. PTO provides services for parents, teachers, students and school. For further information contact the president of PTO, Cindy Voss at 277-5825 for more information.

**SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION** - This board shall formulate policies for Catholic education in the parish. Since Catholic education is the legitimate exercise of the Church's right to teach, the Board shall be subject to the authority of the Church represented within the parish by the pastor. Except for this reservation, the Board shall maintain control over all aspects of Catholic education in the parish.

1. Voting members of the board shall consist of:
  - a. Nine lay men and/or women who are active parishioners excluding only those in direct paid employment by the parish or their immediate families. Members shall be elected by a lottery.
2. The Pastor/Administrator of the Parish will be an ex officio voting Member of the Board. The Principal of St. Teresa School will be an ex officio non-voting member of the Board.
3. The Business Manager, a representative of Mothers of Perpetual Help, St. Teresa Athletic Association (STAA), Extended Care, and the Parent-Teacher Organization (PTO), will be ex officio non-voting members of the Board.

The Board shall meet monthly at 7:00 pm on the third Tuesday of the month in the parish center. Special meetings may be called by the president as needed or by two members with the Pastor's approval.

**SCHOOL ENDOWMENT** - Give consideration to leaving a lasting memorial to the future education of youth as you plan your estate giving to charitable causes. Our Catholic Grade School has established an Endowment Fund. You are welcome to leave money, stocks, bonds, property and another financial means of support for continuing catholic education. Contact the rectory at 233-3500.

## Scouting

**BOY SCOUTS** - Cub Scouts in grades 1-5 hold their Pack meetings once a month in the school cafeteria. Contact Nathan Schreder at 622-0627. Boy Scouts meet every Tuesday at 7:00 pm in the school cafeteria. Contact Terence Halton, 222-1041.

**GIRL SCOUTS** - Active Troop-Daisy to Cadette-Grades K-8. Meetings determined by leaders. Open to all girls in the parish. Contact the school office at 235-4066.

## Youth Activities

**YOUTH GROUP** - The St. Teresa Youth Program provides resources and developmental opportunities for those youth in the sixth through twelfth grades to exercise their Christian faith and Catholic values in our community through Social, Service and Faith/Life events. Youth will not only participate in fun activities and games for their spiritual development, but they will also engage in service based opportunities within the Belleville community to help form a bridge between their faith and the world. Meetings are the first Sunday of the month at 7:00 pm in the parish center. Contact Nancy Furlow at 222-0585.

**LUKE 18 RETREATS** - Luke 18 is a three-day retreat that focuses on inviting young people to open themselves to God; we strive to welcome young people into the Church in order to help them better understand who they are as beautiful and unique members of the Body of Christ. The retreat emphasizes the Sacraments, prayer, the gifts of the Spirit, Saints, the wonderful Tradition of the Church, and authentic Catholic identity. Talks and activities are woven together in a fashion that allows youth participants to engage in faith formation in a truly exciting way. One unique aspect of this retreat is that senior high youth are very active in the planning and executing process, so that junior high youth are able to grow in their faith with peers who have recently experienced their same situations in life. Our mission is to enable young people to walk away from this experience more zealous about their faith and filled with a greater knowledge and love of God. Contact: Kristine Lamons at 541-9010.

## Community Resources

- BETHANY PLACE** Provides services to people with AIDS and their families. Sponsors an annual WALK. Operates a food pantry and is always in need of volunteers for secretarial work, typing, phone, etc. Call 233-7901 for more information.
- CALL FOR HELP** Works the 24-hour Suicide and Crisis Line. Volunteer to supervise the residents for teenagers in crisis and the runaways. Call 234-8477 for more information.
- COMMUNITY INTERFAITH FOOD PANTRY** Located at 1218 West Main Street provides food for those in need and is always in need of volunteers and donations. Call 355-9199 for more information.
- HOSPICE OF SOUTHERN ILLINOIS** Volunteers to give tender, loving care to terminally ill patients and their care giver, aided by a trained staff of nurses. Call 398-4729 for more information.
- PREGNANCY CARE CENTER** Provides confidential help in crisis pregnancies: free pregnancy testing, counseling, adoption information, referrals for medical care, new mother and new baby needs. Call 233-CARE. Supported by the Diocese of Belleville.
- PROJECT RACHEL** Provides a private, confidential means for those seeking assistance in reconciling an abortion experience. Call 1-800-5WE-CARE or 1-888-456-HOPE to be put in touch with a professional who has been specially trained to understand the traumas of those touched by abortion. Sponsored by the Diocese of Belleville Respect Life.
- RACIAL HARMONY** Dedicated to promoting understanding, cooperation and communication among all races and ethnic groups. Educational events held periodically during the year. \$10 Membership. Call 233-7901 for more information.
- RADIO INFORMATION SERVICE** Reading for the blind. Call 398-2179 for more information.
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## **THE VIOLENCE PREVENTION CENTER OF SOUTHERN ILLINOIS**

Services provided include the 24-hour crisis hotline at 235-0892, the Charles T. & Joan Meyer Women's Shelter for battered women and their dependent children, the Peace Place non-residential counseling for children, Counseling & Advocacy Services, and Prevention & Education Services. As always, all services are provided free of charge.

# **Use of Parish Center, School Cafeteria and Gymnasium**

## **GYM POLICY FOR ALL EVENTS**

1. No one is permitted on the floor except team members, before, during and after games; (i.e., especially during half-time of games).
2. After any sporting event during which concessions are served, adult workers will be responsible for pushing the bleachers back and cleaning underneath and cleaning the gym floor.
3. Any organization serving food in the gym will be responsible for cleaning under the bleachers and cleaning the floor.
4. The maintenance person will check the gym after all events and if it has not been cleaned, will report it to the principal. The organization will be fined \$25.00. The principal will be in charge of collecting this fine. Any fines collected will be put in a parish maintenance fund.
5. During the school day, the use of the gym is subject to the direction of the PE. teacher.

## **USE OF THE SCHOOL GYM**

1. Anyone not a parish or school team or organization will pay for the use of the school gym.
2. Teams or groups not sponsored by the parish will be charged \$20.00 per hour for use of the gym.
3. All schedules are subject to approval by the Athletic Director.
4. Use of equipment or supplies is subject to approval by the Athletic Director.
5. Groups from outside the parish must pay a deposit of \$25.00.
6. Rental money collected for gym use will be put into a parish maintenance fund.
7. All groups must be out of the gym by 10:00 pm unless the game runs into overtime.
8. Any scheduled events after 10:00 pm will require special permission from the pastor.
9. No smoking.
10. Adult supervision required for all gym use.
11. No roller blades, skateboards, hockey sticks, footballs or baseballs allowed.
12. All doors must be locked and lights turned off before leaving.
13. The gym will be closed for three weeks prior to the start of school.
14. A rental contract will be required from all groups not officially related to the school or the parish.

**CAFETERIA POLICY FOR ALL EVENTS**

1. A rental contract will be required from all groups not officially related to the school or parish.
2. All trash shall be put in outside dumpster.
3. Floor must be left clean and all tables and chairs replaced in their original position.
5. Building must be vacated by 10:00 pm, except by special consent of the pastor.
6. The cafeteria will be closed for three weeks prior to the start of school.
7. No smoking.

**FEES FOR USE OF THE SCHOOL CAFETERIA**

1. Fees for cafeteria: Parishioners \$100.00
2. Deposit of \$50.00 is required for clean-up. If cleaned to our satisfaction the deposit will be refunded.
3. Fees will be deposited into a parish maintenance fund.
4. Maximum capacity is 150 persons.

**PARISH CENTER POLICY FOR ALL EVENTS**

1. Parishioners of St. Teresa Parish may use the Parish Center. Parishioners are defined as those who are registered and participating.
2. St. Teresa facilities may not be used by outside groups for any fundraising activity.
3. St. Teresa facilities may not be used for any political meetings or rallies.
4. All individuals or groups using a parish facility must provide proof of insurance as indicated on Facility Use Agreement.
5. User is responsible for all damaged or broken property.
6. St. Teresa Parish is not responsible for user's damaged or broken property.
7. No alcohol may be sold on parish property by any outside group.
8. The parish is a not-for-profit organization under the Internal Revenue Code with limitations on any "for profit" activities. Consequently, use of parish facilities is limited to parish-sponsored organizations, parishioners of St. Teresa Parish, or outside groups comprised primarily of parish members or in which a parishioner is an officer or responsible person.
9. User fees are established to cover the estimated cost of lights, heat and other utilities and apply to all users except parish-sponsored organizations.
10. The dates for the major function must be cleared with the parish secretary at least two weeks prior to the event. The dates must be available.
11. Any function utilizing a band or D.J. must not play after 12:00 Midnight.
12. All functions shall conclude and all guests shall be gone from the premises no later than 1:00 am. Any hour or part of an hour past the 1:00 am deadline will be assessed a \$100 per hour charge.

13. Pictures, posters, decorations or other materials may not be attached to the walls, ceilings, windows, tables, doors or floors by nails, tacks, staples or other devices. Masking tape may be used on walls only. Ceiling decorations must be attached to hooks. No exposed candles, dark colored crepe paper, confetti, etc. shall be permitted.
14. Absolute limit the Parish Center will hold is 250 people.
15. Alcohol must be purchased through St. Teresa Parish.
16. Profane or abusive language, drunkenness, brawls, excessive noise or conduct is not acceptable at Catholic gatherings and at St. Teresa Parish and will not be tolerated at any time.
17. Rental is limited to adults 21 years of age or older. Persons under age 21 using the facilities must be supervised by an adult 21 years of age or older.
18. The parishioner renting, both individually and on behalf of the group represented, agrees to indemnify and reimburse St. Teresa for any damage to the Parish Center or other property of the church caused by anyone in attendance at the function.
19. The parishioner renting, both individually and on behalf of the group represented, agrees to defend, indemnify and hold harmless St. Teresa Parish, its employees, agents, and representatives, of and from any and all claims for injuries to anyone attending the function in question, whether said injuries are caused in whole or in part by the negligence of St. Teresa Parish, its agents, members or representatives.
20. EXCEPTIONS: Any exceptions or amendments to the above Guidelines must be made by St. Teresa Parish Council and/or parish pastor.
21. THIS IS A NO SMOKING FACILITY.

#### **FEES FOR USE OF THE PARISH CENTER**

1. Hall rental for showers, parties, etc., up to 100 people, is \$100.00. For 100 or more people present the hall rental is \$200.00. This is a four (4) hour rental. The bartender fee is \$20.00 per hour with a \$50.00 minimum. Check beer prices through the rectory.
2. Hall rental for Wedding Receptions is \$300.00. This is an eight (8) hour rental. The Bartender fee is \$20.00 per hour with a \$75.00 minimum. Check beer prices through the rectory. The renter may decorate the day of the wedding, or if available, the prior evening.
3. A deposit of \$50.00 is required for clean-up. If cleaned to our satisfaction the deposit will be returned.
4. Use of the warming kitchen is included but must be put back in the same condition as found as well as the entire Parish Center in order for the clean-up deposit to be returned.



# Parish Liturgy

## **EUCCHARIST**

Monday-Wednesday-Friday at 8:15 am

### **Sunday Liturgy**

5:00 pm (Saturday)

7:00 am

9:00 am

11:00 am

### **Holy Day Liturgy**

Consult Bulletin

## **BAPTISM**

Parents of the first born children are to attend a baptism preparation session prior to baptism. Baptisms are scheduled for the 1st or 3rd Sundays of the month. Contact the Rectory office to schedule a Baptism or for further information, 233-3500.

## **CONFIRMATION**

The Sacrament of Confirmation is usually received during eighth grade. Any adult wishing to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation should contact the rectory office.

## **MARRIAGE**

Contact the rectory at least four months prior to setting a wedding date.

## **HOLY ORDERS and RELIGIOUS LIFE**

Contact the rectory or the Vocation Office at 235-9601.

## **NOVENA**

First Monday of every month following the 8:15 am Mass.

## **RECONCILIATION**

4:00-4:40 pm Saturday or by appointment.

# Parish Staff

Rev. Msgr. David M. Darin.....	Pastor
Rev. Fr. Anthony Onyango.....	Parochial Vicar
Donna Thro.....	Business Administrator
Connie Crawford.....	Parish Secretary
Scott Pluff.....	Director of Liturgy and Music
Jenifer Lohmann.....	Director of Religious Education
Jonathan "Skip" Birdsong.....	Principal
Rosemary Heinen.....	School Secretary
Dan McDonnell.....	Rectory/Church Custodian

# Parish Phone Numbers

Rectory Office .....	233-3500
.....	233-3501
Rectory Fax .....	233-9703
School Office.....	235-4066
School Fax.....	235-7930
School Kitchen .....	235-2039

## Parish Website

[www.stteresabelleville.com](http://www.stteresabelleville.com)

## School Website

[www.stteresa.pvt.k12.il.us](http://www.stteresa.pvt.k12.il.us)