



SAINT THERESA CATHOLIC CHURCH

Alive in Christ

Rev. Thien Nguyen, Administrator
Deacon Anthony Gagliani

630 Rathbun Street, Blackstone, MA 01504

Rectory 508-883-7206 ✕ Fax 508-883-5250

Office Hours: Monday - Friday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Email: theresaparish630@gmail.com

Website: www.sttheresablackstone.org

Rel. Ed. Email: ccdreligiouseducation@gmail.com

NEW PARISHIONERS: Welcome to Saint Theresa's Parish. Please register at the Parish Office on the second floor.

BAPTISM: Contact Father Thien or Deacon Gagliani for catechesis and arrangement for celebration of the sacrament.

MARRIAGE: Marriage preparation takes about one year. Couples who wish to marry at Saint Theresa's should see Father Thien or Deacon Gagliani as soon as possible.

RECONCILIATION/PENANCE: Saturday at 3:00 to 3:40 p.m. in the confessional or by appointment.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK: Please call for a hospital visit or anointing of the sick.

HOLY HOUR: Friday evening after the 6:30 Mass.

ROSARY: After the weekday morning Mass.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: Sundays, September to May. Kindergarten through Grade 10. Session begins at 8:15 a.m. and ends after Mass at 10:30 a.m.

FOOD PANTRY: The food pantry is located in the Thrift Shop. Open Mon., Tues., Wed., and Sat., 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. **Donations are always accepted.** "Got Food? Sunday" Collection is the last weekend of each month.

THRIFT SHOP: Open Mon., Tues., Wed., and Sat., 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. Donations of clothing are accepted Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday, 4 p.m. Vigil

Sunday, 9:30 a.m.

Monday, NO Mass

Tuesday, 6:30 p.m.

Wed. & Thurs., 7:30 a.m.

Friday, 6:30 p.m. followed by

Benediction

Holiday Schedule

See Bulletin

CONFESSIONS

Saturday at 3 p.m.

ADORATION

Friday after 6:30 Mass

ROSARY

After weekday morning Mass

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT DECEMBER 20, 2015

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a; Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21; Lk 1:39-45

Tuesday: 1 Sm 1:24-28; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-8abcd; Lk 1:46-56

Wednesday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-34; Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-10, 14; Lk 1:57-66

Thursday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29; Lk 1:67-79

Friday: Vigil: Is 62:1-5; Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29; Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Mt 1:1-25 [18-25]

Night: Is 9:1-6; Ps 96:1-3, 11-13; Ti 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14

Dawn: Is 62:11-12; Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12; Ti 3:4-7; Lk 2:15-20

Day: Is 52:7-10; Ps 98:1-6; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18 [1-5, 9-14]

Saturday: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Ps 31:3cd-4, 6, 8ab, 16bc, 17; Mt 10:17-22

Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28;

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**Sunday, December 20, 2015 ✳ The Fourth Sunday of Advent
Mass Intentions**

Saturday	Dec 19	4:00 p.m.	Contance Trudeau by Josephine & Robert Laliberte
Sunday	Dec 20	9:30 a.m.	Dick Lozeau by Jeanne & Family
Monday	Dec 21		No Mass
Tuesday	Dec 22	6:30 p.m.	Roland Groleau by his Wife & Family
Wednesday	Dec 23	7:30 a.m.	For a Favor Obtained by Yvette Asselin
Thursday	Dec 24	4:00 p.m. Midnight	Jack Moore & Denise McNamara by Jim & Elaine Father Dennis Rochford by Steve & Deborah Champeau
Friday	Dec 25	9:30 a.m.	Robert Marchand & Robert Marchand Jr. by Family
Saturday	Dec 26	4:00 p.m.	DiPietro Family by Joseph DiPietro
Sunday	Dec 27	9:30 a.m.	Norma Dipietro by Joseph DiPietro

*** If possible, we would like members of the family who requested the Mass to bring up the gifts at the appropriate time.

December 24 & 25	Altar Servers	Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Lectors
Thursday 4:00 p.m.		M. Cardone, H. Trottier, C. & R. Perreault C. Martinelli	J. DiPietro
Midnight		T. Harvey, R. Turcotte	G. Dufault
Friday 9:30 a.m.		J. DiPietro, A. Markle, D. Vose	T. Harvey

THIS WEEK'S ACTIVITIES

DAILY	Mon-Sat	Noon	12 Golden Steps Meeting	Father Lamothe Center
Sunday	Dec 13	After Mass	Coffee And...	Fr. Lamothe Center
Tuesday	Dec 15	9:30 a.m.	Prayer Shawl Group	Father Lamothe Center
Wednesday	Dec 16	7:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal	Church
Thursday	Dec 17	9:00 a.m.	Prayer Shawl Group	Father Lamothe Center
Friday	Dec 18	6:30 p.m.	Benediction after Mass	Chapel
Saturday	Dec 19	3:00 p.m.	Confession	Confessional

Last Sunday's Collection

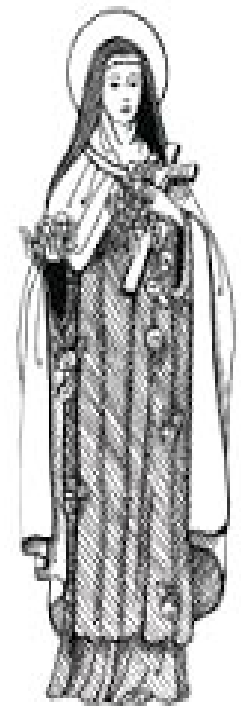
Total Stewardship: \$ 2,289.50
 Immaculate Conception: \$ 636.00
 Share in the Care: \$ 882.00
 Christmas Flowers: \$ 430.00

Thank you for your continued support of St. Theresa's!

St. Michael's Vigil Lights: Burns in honor of All Military Members in Harms

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

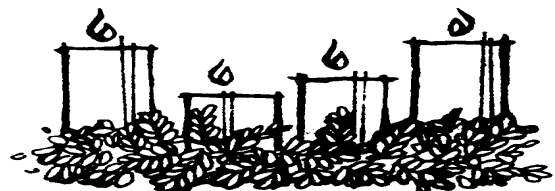
Sunday: Fourth Sunday of Advent
 Monday: St. Peter Canisius; Winter begins
 Wednesday: St. John of Kanty
 Thursday: The Vigil of Christmas
 Friday: The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)
 Saturday: St. Stephen; First day of Kwanzaa



*Hear me,
 Lord Jesus
 listen as I pray:
 "Lead me from night
 to never ending day.
 Fill all the world
 with love
 and grace divine.
 And glory, laud
 and praise
 be ever thine."*

Upcoming Holy and Holiday Masses

Christmas Eve Vigil Mass 12/24 at 4:00 p.m.
 Christmas Midnight Mass 12/25 at 12:00 a.m.
 Christmas Mass at Dawn 12/25 at 9:30 a.m.



Merry Christmas

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A NEW ORDER

“O, Little Town of Bethlehem.” A Philadelphia clergyman named Phillips Brooks penned these popular words back in the mid-1800s, but the prophet Micah could have used them first. Micah knew that from small packages great treasures come. In today’s first reading, he knew that from tiny Bethlehem would come the Lord.

The writer in Hebrews explains that Christ came to us to do the will of God by establishing a new order and by becoming our perfect sacrifice. And Luke tells us that Elizabeth and John, the infant in her womb, understand that great and wondrous things are at hand with the coming of the Lord.

This is the Fourth Sunday of Advent. Soon we celebrate anew the fruit of Mary’s womb. As we are told in Hebrews, Jesus’ new order is being established even today. And as Micah proclaims, his greatness is reaching even now to the ends of the earth. Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.



Food Pantry/Thrift Shop: The food pantry and thrift shop are open Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Saturday 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. **Thank you to all who donate food during the month.** For the month of November the food pantry served 59 families. Donating to the food pantry can be easy and affordable by shopping the weekly specials. Any (non-perishable) items will be greatly appreciated. Come visit the thrift shop. There are quality clean clothes available at very reasonable prices.

Children’s Choir: On Sunday December 20th, please join us in Christmas Caroling! We will start at 6:30 p.m. from the Fr. Lamothe Center, Carol around the neighborhood, and return to the Fr. Lamothe Center for cookies and hot chocolate. Please wear warm clothes and bring a flashlight.

Altar Server Notice—It is not too late to sign up and be trained to be an Altar Server for our weekend Mass. If you have made your First Communion and would like to be an Altar Server, you may contact Fr. Thien, Toni Harvey, or the parish office.

Religious Education

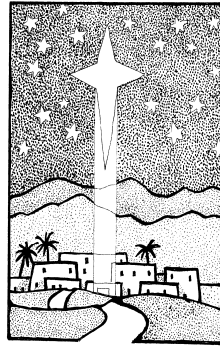
Learning, Living, Loving in Christ

Next Sunday, December 27th there is **NO** Religious Education classroom session due to Christmas break. The Mass schedule remains the same.

This Sunday, the Religious Education program is holding their Happy Birthday Jesus Celebration in the upper Hall from 8:15am - 9:15am. Families of our students are invited to join us as well!

LIGHT

All the darkness of the world cannot put out the light of one small candle. —Anonymous



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TODAY’S READINGS

First Reading — From you, Bethlehem, shall come forth one who is to be ruler in Israel. (Micah 5:1 4a).

Psalm — Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved (Psalm 80).

Second Reading — By Christ doing the will of God, we have been consecrated (Hebrews 10:5 10).

Gospel — “Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb” (Luke 1:39 45).

The English translation of the Psalm Responses from the *Lectionary for Mass* © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Many of our most treasured traditions link the liturgy of the church with the hearth of the home. The food on the table at certain feasts and fasts helps to extend the mystery into everyday life. Tonight, for example, many families of Italian heritage, especially those with links to the south of Italy, will settle down to the “Feast of the Seven Fishes,” or *La Vigilia*. It is a command performance for the whole family, as the saying goes: *Natale con I tuui, Pasqua conchi vuoi*, or “Christmas with your family, Easter with whomever you wish.” Seven different fish, some say one for each day of Mary and Joseph’s journey to Bethlehem, others say one for each sacrament, or one for each day of creation, are served. Eel and shrimp, lobster and crab, calamari, pasta with clam sauce, flounder and hake all abound, but most especially baccala, dried salted cod. Why? Many say that it is a way to pay homage to the beasts of the stable who witnessed the holy birth and relinquished their manger to make way for God. Tonight, if someone asks you to “pass the shrimp,” you’ll be able to shed a little light on a menu that is a delicious treasure in our tradition! —Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

LOVE NOW Let those love now, who never loved before; let those who always loved now love the more. —Anonymous