

St. Theresa Catholic Church

21371 St. Theresa Lane, Ashburn, Virginia 20147



January 23, 2022

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Masses for the Week

Mon, Jan 24	6:15— Paul McIntyre+ 8:30— Religious Ed Students
Tues, Jan 25	6:15— Souls in Purgatory+ 8:30— Beth Moschetto
Wed, Jan 26	6:15— Ruth Pollock+ 8:30— Doug Schmude Jr. 12:15— William Campenni
Thurs, Jan 27	6:15— Joe Ule+ 8:30— Mia Venkat
Fri, Jan 28	6:15— Don Schmude & Family 8:30— Seraphine Premkumar
Sat, Jan 29	8:30— Connie McDougall+ 5:30— Maria Magdalena Nguyen
Sun, Jan 30	7:30— Jeannie Lukas, OCDS 8:45— Fred Baranek+ 10:30— Michelle Barta 12:30— St. Theresa Parishioners 5:00— Sally Kozlowski+

Parish Mass Schedule

Saturday:	8:30am, 5:30pm Vigil Mass
Sunday:	7:30, 8:45am & 10:30am 12:30 & 5:00pm
Weekdays:	6:15 and 8:30am, Monday through Friday Wednesdays: 12:15pm
Holy Days:	As announced
Holy Hour:	Wednesdays, 7pm
Confessions:	Saturdays, 4:00-4:45 pm; during Holy Hour; and by appointment

Clergy

Reverend James C. Hudgins, Pastor
Reverend Paul Dudzinski, Parochial Vicar
Reverend Nicholas R. Barnes, Parochial Vicar
Deacon Paul C. Konold
Deacon Anthony J. Renzette
Deacon Matthew K. Noah

Prayers For The Sick: John Forbes, Ruth Carradini, Mark Naftzger, Ann Hannah, Thomas Poerstel, Daniel John Begley, Scott Spitnale, Danny Schmude, Jess Williamson, Matthew Albert Skubie, Barbara Orandello, Jeff Peters, Marcela Garcia, CJ Buechner, Nancye Pochick, Quinn Gorman, Michael Robertson, Nickalus Shalin, Celeste Hall, Donna Caulfield, Ethan Falciani, Mary Ann Lyons, Rosario Acot, Keith Waltower, Ben Thede, Eugene Prosack, Lynn Petrara, John Spriggs, George Morelos, Carol Logue, MaryEllen Back, Apryl Binder, Carole Davidson, Cheryl Grieve, Rita Giunta, Maria Giunta.

Prayers For Our Military: Eric Frames, Bill Freschi, Paul Schierling, Marshall Kellner, Colin Freyne, Eric Ciliberti, John Kesterson, Matthew Kesterson, Alexa Katharine Koenig, Mark Short, Jonathan Bayly, Russell Escalante, Eric Reilly, John Conrad, Fr. James Hinkle, Andrew Gillespie, Stephen Gilliland, David Seliquini, Joseph Auler, Adam Parkinson, Jake Shelton, Patrick G. Fitzgerald, Sean Spurr, Jack Hayes, David and Katherine Bergeron, Christopher Martin, Thomas Gleason, Tony Mattice, Greg Lee, David Lakey, Jim Murray, Keith Bittle, Michael McCurdy, Steven Digangi, Michael J. Pruden.

Is It Selfish of God to Demand Your Love?

Here's a question I've been asked many times by people inclined to leave the faith. "Isn't it egotistical of God to demand that everyone love him? Why is God so conceited?"

Now, let's confess one fact right at the outset. God loves his own self first and foremost. St. Thomas Aquinas tells us that the persons of the Trinity—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—are the primary object of divine love. This is not to say that God does not love us, his creatures. He does, and infinitely so. God created us, sustains us in existence, and gives us everything we need to be made worthy of being with him in heaven. However, we creatures simply do not have what it takes to receive and reciprocate the infinitude of divine love. Only the persons of the Trinity can do that. God's act of love can be fulfilled only within God's own persons.

Now, for some atheists, God's love of himself above all things—and his demand that rational creatures love him above all things—smacks of egocentricity or narcissism. Only a conceited, egotistical maniac, so it's argued, could demand such love for himself. How does a believer respond to such an accusation? We begin by asking, "what does it mean to be egotistical? What does it mean to be conceited?" To be egotistical means to have an unwarranted esteem for yourself—to have a disordered self-love. A conceited person overestimates his own importance and takes a position of superiority that's not due to him. For example, it's conceited and egotistical for a Hollywood actress to believe that lawmakers should consult her and accept her political views simply because she's a movie star. This happens (as we know) and is in fact an example of an overestimated self-importance, and an unwarranted self-esteem.

Some movie stars may think they're God, but the real God is beyond our imagining. God is the very perfection of existence itself. As St. Anselm wrote, God is the being "greater than which nothing can even be imagined." God is not just good and loving. God is the essence of goodness and love itself. Now, if God is the supreme goodness imaginable, then he is worthy of the highest love imaginable. If so, then God's love of himself above all things is not disordered love, but rightly ordered love—not egotistical, but rightly balanced.

What then about the complaint that God is an ego-maniac for demanding that we love him above all things? Well, if it's not conceited for God to love himself above all things, then it's not conceited for him to demand that we love him above all things. If God is goodness and love itself, and all other goodness in the universe is merely a reflection of God's goodness, then how could God want us to love him second to anything less? It would be like telling us to love a photograph of a person rather than to love the person himself. What's really interesting to ponder is that God designed us such that when we love him, we actually perfect our own selves. In other words, loving God makes us become our true selves, and leads to our genuine happiness. The more we honor and love God, the more ourselves we become, and the happier we become. There's nothing egocentric about God looking out for your happiness.

So, when you worship God, there's no need to fear that you're feeding an ego-monster with undeserved praise. God is already perfect, and needs nothing from us. It's our praise of him, rather, that perfects us. That's not something to fear. That's something to embrace with all our heart, mind, soul, and strength.

God bless you, and St. Theresa pray for us!



Fr. Hudgins

Pro-Life Corner

Pro-Family Talk

St. John the Apostle Parish is pleased to host Susan Muskett, J.D., President of Pro-Family Women, for a presentation on *Why Catholics Have Hope in Today's Battle for Life and Family*, Saturday, February 5, 2022, 7pm, St. John the Apostle Parish Center Auditorium. Pro-Family Women promotes the values of faithful Catholic women in proclaiming the truth about human life and family. Pro-Family Women

serves under the protection of Our Lady of the Rosary.

Defending Life Day in Richmond

On Wednesday February 9th 2022 please come and advocate for a pro-life Virginia! Virginians will come together in Richmond for prayer – led by Bishop Burbidge and Bishop Knestout – and to meet with their legislators to urge them to defend life. Our goal is to assemble advocates from every district

in the Commonwealth – and we need you. Talking points, legislative updates and tips for effective advocacy will be provided to make your constituent meetings easy and successful.



Bulletin Deadline: Friday 2pm (9 days prior to publication)

Youth Education and News



ymoffice@sainttheresaparish.com

Upcoming Youth Group Events:

January:

Sunday, the 23rd – Parish Food Transport & Sort after 8:45am & 5pm Masses (about an hour)

Monday, the 24th – Complete the Food Sort, 7pm Louis Martin Room, (about 1.5 hours)

Tuesday, the 25th – Load Donated Food for transport to Food Pantry, 6:30-7pm

Sunday, the 30th– Upper Room Squad – High School Youth Group, 6-7:45pm

Adult Volunteers Needed - Youth Ministry is looking for sincere, motivated, and willing adults who would like to help out with our Parish youth. Saint JPII instructed our youth, "young people, do not be afraid to be holy!". We would love for you to join us as we walk alongside the amazing young people of our Parish family. All volunteers need to be compliant - having a background clearance check and having completed a mandatory Child Protection Course (Virtus – Protecting God's Children). Contact Paul Dwyer, ymoffice@sainttheresaparish.com.



Office Hours:

Mon–Thurs. 9am-4pm; Fri. 9am-noon

Adults Plan Ahead to Volunteer

Want to volunteer at the many St. Theresa's children based programs/ events? We encourage and welcome your involvement however it requires that all volunteers be compliant. For details contact Connie Gilligan, Parish Child Protection Coordinator, at connie@sainttheresaparish.com or call 703.729.3714.

Can you help?

STCS Focus on Faculty Thunder Appeal

Your gift supports our faculty & students every day!



Donate by check, visit www.stsashburn.com, or scan the QR code with your phone camera!

Thank you for your support!

The St. Theresa Catholic School (STCS) Thunder Appeal, "Focus on Faculty," is underway – can you help? The Appeal will raise funds to support our wonderful faculty by updating their laptops & technology, providing additional professional development opportunities, and bridging



Saint Theresa Catholic School

the gap between the actual cost to educate each student and what we charge in tuition. Your gift of any size will impact our faculty and students every day, and is much appreciated! For details scan the QR code with your phone camera, visit our website, www.stsashburn.com (click "Support/ Thunder Appeal), or contact Regina Freschi, freschir@stsashburn.com. **Thank you for your support of STCS and Catholic education!**

STCS Parents, see the **Thursday Thunder Newsletter** for information on important dates and events like these:

- **Friday, January 28** – 1:30pm early dismissal (teacher professional development); PTO Used Uniform Sale
- **Sunday, January 30** – Catholic Schools Week begins! See email for full schedule.
- **Monday, January 31** – Backpack Buddies food collection
- **Friday, February 4** – 11:30am early dismissal; PTO Spirit Event after school

Learn more about our wonderful Parish school and how Catholic education can make a difference in your child's

life! For information on the 2022-23 admissions process, visit our website, www.stsashburn.com (click "Admissions") or email Admissions Director Denise Rotell, rotelld@stsashburn.com.

When you shop on Amazon, please use AmazonSmile – they'll give back a portion of your purchase to STCS. Go to www.AmazonSmile.com and choose "St Theresa Parish School" from the list of charities (NOTE: no period after 'St'). At Harris Teeter, link your VIC card to STCS with code #5887 at the customer service desk or online. *Thank you for your support!*



2B, Mrs. Titus 2007-08

Calling all St. Theresa Catholic School **ALUMNI!** We'd love to hear from you! Send your updates to alumni@stsashburn.com

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Knights of Columbus

Food Drive: January's food drive takes place this weekend (Jan 22-23). No worries if you were unable to pick up a blue bag last week, you can still donate by bringing in unexpired items in grocery bags or make a cash donation by the 5 pm mass on Jan 23.

For a complete list of priority items needed, please go to <https://www.st-louismartin-kofc.org/loudoun-food-pantry-2> or scan below:



Thanks for your ongoing support!

Polar Plunge fundraising: The Knights will be accepting donations for the 2022 Virginia Polar Plunge after all Masses the weekend of January 22

and 23. The Virginia Polar Plunge is a Knights of Columbus supported charity providing financial assistance to people with intellectual disabilities. Why plunge? We all need you to take the Plunge because thousands of individuals with intellectual disabilities need your help. The funds raised will provide year-round sports training, competition, leadership opportunities, and health services for as many as 23,000 Special Olympic athletes.

Are you a parishioner in need of a home repair? If you need help in completing a small home repair that you cannot complete yourself or that may cause you financial hardship, we are here to help! Projects can involve carpentry plumbing, electrical, painting, and/or the installation of a new appliance. Please submit your request

on our website at: <https://www.st-louismartin-kofc.org/handy-man-services>.

Call for Handyman Crew Volunteers:

Are you available to volunteer as a handyman for those in need? The volunteers of the St. Louis Martin Council of the Knights of Columbus are available to complete small home repairs for the benefit of those in need who are physically incapable of performing the work, or for whom the hiring of a professional is cost prohibitive. Learn more here: <https://www.st-louismartin-kofc.org/handy-man-services>.

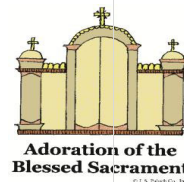
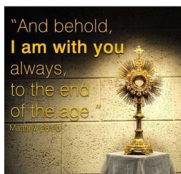
Interested in learning more about the Knights of Columbus? Find our Frequently Asked Questions: <https://www.st-louismartin-kofc.org/faqs>.

Current Vacant Adoration Slots

Urgent Need

No Adorer for	Tuesday	2:30am, 5:00am
First Half Hour	Saturday	2:00am, 10:30am

	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
One Adorer already for these time slots but need one more Adorer.	12:00am 1:00am 2:30am 3:30am	12:00am 1:00am 2:00am 3:00am	1:00am 2:00am 3:00am 4:00am	1:00am 2:00am 3:30am 6:00am	12:30am 1:30am 2:30am 3:30am	12:30am 1:30am 2:30am 3:30am	12:30am 1:30am 2:30am 3:30am
If you can sign up for one of these available slots, it would be greatly appreciated.	4:30am 7:00am 8:00am	4:00am 5:00am 6:00am	5:30am 7:00am 12:00pm	7:00am 8:30am 9:30am	4:30am 7:30am 1:00pm	8:00am 3:30pm 6:00pm	4:30am 8:00am 3:30pm
To sign up, go to:	11:30am 12:30pm 1:30pm	7:30am 8:30am 9:30am	1:00pm 2:30pm 5:00pm	4:00pm 6:30pm	6:30pm 10:00pm 11:30pm	11:30pm	5:00pm 6:00pm 8:30pm
http://sainttheresa.letusadore.com	3:30pm 5:00pm 6:00pm 7:00pm 8:00pm 9:00pm 10:00pm	11:00am 1:00pm 2:00pm 3:00pm 4:00pm 5:00pm 11:00pm	10:30pm				10:00pm 11:00pm



Adult Education and Spiritual Enrichment

Women's Discipleship Group

Meets every Wednesday Morning from 9:30-10:30am for Lectio Divina and from 10:45-11:45am for spiritual book reading. Our focus is the Mass reading for the upcoming Sunday and a

spiritual book selected by our spiritual director Deacon Matthew Noah.

Parish women of all ages are cordially invited to explore a spiritual relationship with Jesus through Lectio Divina

and our current book of inspirational reflection.

For more information contact Dawn Garabito, 862.812.0039 or dmarie213@aol.com

Wanting to hear Fr. Hudgins' homilies?

You can find all of Fr. Hudgins homilies recorded on Fatherhudgins.com

News from our Parish

We're Hiring

St. Theresa Catholic School is accepting applications for Substitute Teachers and Extended Day Care staff. To apply, please send your resume, cover letter, and references to HR@sainttheresaparish.com.

Heaven In Your Home

A Workshop on How to Build a Flourishing Catholic Household
St. Theresa Catholic School Cafeteria,
Tuesday, **February 8**, 6:30-8:30pm
FREE Event - RSVP at

trinityhousecommunity.org/stworkshop
Questions? Contact Soren & Ever at contact@trinityhousecommunity.org or 703.669.2807

Ushers Needed

Would you like to serve the Church as an usher? St. Theresa's Usher Ministry is looking for volunteers. Join this ministry, where you can share in the gifts of hospitality and in serving this faith filled community of fellowship and family. We are excited and grate-

ful to welcome you, both men and women! Contact StTheresaUshers@gmail.com if you are interested.

Interested in learning about the Legion of Mary?

Three Legion of Mary groups meet at different times. Check the website for information, or be our guest at any Legion meeting held on Wednesday, 7:15pm; Friday 10am, or Saturday 9:15am.

News from the Diocese

2022 BISHOP'S LENTEN APPEAL (BLA) BEGINS!

The 2022 BLA mailing was recently sent to parishioners. The theme this year is "Do this in remembrance of me." After reflecting upon the blessings God has given you, please prayerfully consider a pledge. The BLA funds programs and ministries that serve thousands of people in our diocese. Through the inspiration of the BLA theme, let us remember the tender nature of Christ as together we give of ourselves to others. You make a gift at: www.arlingtondiocese.org or scan the QR code below:



Do you love someone with a drug or alcohol problem?

The Nar-Anon is a worldwide fellowship for those affected by a friend's or family member's addiction. As a twelve-step program, we offer our help by sharing our experience, strength, and hope. Please join us for an evening of support and recovery; you're only a stranger until you walk through the door. For more information, contact Deacon Noah at dcnnoah@sainttheresaparish.com. Weekly meetings are held, Mondays, 7-8pm @ Christ the Redeemer Church in Sterling; Thursdays, 7-8pm @ Leesburg Presbyterian Church.

EnCourage: Help for the parents of children experiencing sexual identity confusion

The Diocese of Arlington is starting a support group for the parents of children aged 22 and younger who are reporting gender dysphoria or have embraced a "trans" or "non-binary" identity. The group is part of the EnCourage apostolate. Facilitated by psychologist Dr. Frank Moncher and Fr. Stephen Schultz, the group will meet in person monthly. Please email encourage@arlingtondiocese.org or call 571.732.1011 to speak with Fr. Schultz and get information about the meetings.

Help for Troubled Marriages

RETROUVAILLE is a program designed to help couples who are experiencing the loneliness, disillusionment, and pain of a marriage in trouble. If you are thinking of separation or divorce or you are already separated but want to try again - RETROUVAILLE can help. If your marriage has become unloving and uncaring, if your relationship has grown cold and distant, if there is little or no meaningful communication, or if you feel disappointment - even despair - we encourage you to contact us. www.helpourmarriage.com or 703.351.7211 or 3044@retrouvaille.org.

St. John's Separated and Divorced Ministry invites all separated or divorced Catholics in the area to their meetings every third Thursday of the month at 7:30pm at St. John's in Leesburg. Please email separat-

ed.divorced@stjohnleesburg.com for more information.

Marriage Encounter

Are you letting Jesus proclaim the good news to you in your marriage? Sign up today to attend one of the next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experiences on Feb 7-8, 2022 in Chantilly, VA and Mar 25-27, 2022 in Warrenton, VA. Early sign up is recommended. Visit our website at: RenewMarriage-VANorth.org or contact us at applications@renewmarriage-vanorth.org or 703.646.1521.

Opportunities at Our Lady of Bethesda Retreat Center

Three to Get Married Marriage Prep
In-Person: Feb 10-13, Mar 10-13, Mar 24-27; Virtual Only: Apr 21-24
A Catholic Pre-Cana program for seriously dating and engaged couples. This marriage prep course is an intensive preparation experience true to the teachings of the Catholic Church. Convenient one-weekend schedule. FOCCUS administration is included. \$315 per couple. Space will be limited.

Women's Mini Retreat

Evening: Jan 26, 6-9pm
Morning: Jan 27, 9:30am - Noon
Each Mini-Retreat includes: Mass, adoration, directed meditation, a practical talk, and time for personal reflection, and a meal. Cost is \$20 per person. Advance Registration is required. Babysitting will be available for the Morning Mini-Retreat.

For all the above:

Visit our website to register ourladyofbethesda.org. Or call 301.365.0612. 7007 Bradley Blvd., Bethesda, MD

Parish Offices

Secretary: Christine Young, 703.729.2287
Secretary: Kelly Cosenke, 703.729.2287
Business Manager: Angelita Lupetaliaami, 703.729.2287
Facilities Coordinator: Tom Balint, 703.729.2287
Outreach Coordinator: Marianne Guidos, 703.729.2334
Website: www.sainttheresaparish.com
Email: office@sainttheresaparish.com
Fax: 703.729.9036

Religious Education Offices

Director: Larry Bayne, 703.729.3714
Youth Activities: Paul Dwyer, 703.729.0426
Secretary: Connie Gilligan, 703.729.3714
Secretary: Myriam Perez, 703.729.3714
Email: reoffice@sainttheresaparish.com
Fax: 703.729.9036

School Offices

Principal: Erin O'Malley, 703.729.3577
Assistant Principal: Danny Costa, 703.729.3577
Admin Asst: Lisa Ralston, 703.729.3577
Receptionist: Priscilla Keller, 703.729.3577
Website: www.stsashburn.com
Email: schooloffice@stsashburn.com
Fax: 703.729.8068

All offices located at 21370 St. Theresa Lane, Ashburn, VA

Sacraments

Sponsor Certificates

Please contact the Parish Office to obtain a sponsor certificate prior to a Baptism or Confirmation.

Baptisms

Parents desiring Baptism for their child must attend a class, preferably before the child's birth. The classes are held the first Thursday of each month at 7:30pm in the Louis Martin Conference Room in the Administration Bldg. After you attend the class, you may schedule your child for the Sacrament of Baptism (Sundays 1:30pm). Date is confirmed once all paperwork is received in the office. Forms can be found on the Parish website under Faith, Sacraments, Baptism.

Matrimony

The priest must be contacted at least six (6) months prior to the wedding date.

Visit the Parish Website under Faith, Sacraments, Marriage and fill out the Marriage Preparation Questionnaire prior to contacting the Parish Office. A priest will contact you.

RCIA

Adults desiring instruction in the Catholic Faith should visit the website to register for RCIA classes.

Hospitalized/Homebound

Please contact the Parish Office to ask for Holy Communion or the Anointing of the Sick.



Learn more, visit
www.sainttheresaparish.com

Did you know that through your help we assisted families in need with 211 food/toiletry bags from our parish pantry in 2021? Thank you for helping those who had emergency needs!

Many thanks to those who donate items and make monetary donations throughout the year. We appreciate your donations as they make a big difference to those in need.

Car Raffle 2022

All Saints Church (Manassas, VA) has invited our parishioners to participate in their Multi Car Raffle. Prizes include four 2022 vehicles from Koons of Manassas (Honda Civic, Buick Encore, GMC Canyon Truck and Honda Odyssey Van). One \$5.00 ticket offers the purchaser a chance to win all four vehicles plus \$40,000 in cash prizes. You will be receiving tickets in the mail within the next week or so. Please consider selling/purchasing the tickets mailed to you. The raffle continues to benefit families in need through Divine Mercy Outreach and many other charitable causes throughout the diocese, as it has in

the past. Please help us to make this successful!

Volunteers for the Bed Ministry – volunteers with trucks or Large SUVs needed especially! It's rewarding to assist families in need. Consider taking a short time out of your day to bring some light into another's life. We need extra helpers to bring new beds to families moving out of the shelters and other families and children in need. Interested in helping contact Bea Craig at 571.439.0364 or beds@sainttheresaparish.com

The Visitation Ministry—

Homebound or want to volunteer to visit the homebound? We have wonderful parishioners who would love to call and visit you by phone if you are not comfortable with a home visit at this time! If you need help with an errand or would like someone to pray with you, let us know. We are also looking to add to our list of volunteers to make visits. Please contact Claudia Lewis at 703.431.8670 or email her at clewis825@gmail.com.

Furniture Ministry—accepting kitchen tables & chairs, smaller dressers and metal bed frames. Please contact our furniture coordinator, Una Giachinta at 571.217.7551 or furniture@sainttheresaparish.com if you want to help or if you have these items to donate.

Giving others hope--Monetary Donations Your donations make a difference in the lives of struggling families! There are struggling veterans, individuals and families due to domestic violence, disabilities, layoffs, medical issues and unforeseen circumstances that need help in moving forward.

Donations accepted online, or by mail or drop off to the parish office. Please indicate DMO in the memo of the check or on the envelope. To donate online go to the parish website <http://www.sainttheresaparish.com> and click on "Donate" tab to make a monetary donation online! Thank you for helping us to bring Christ's love to others by helping them in their time of need.

Looking for ways help? Consider signing up to receive our Outreach email to get up to date information on needs and volunteer opportunities. You will learn about what we do and how you can become more involved in touching the lives of families who are struggling. Contact Marianne Guidos 703.729.2334 or dmoutreach@sainttheresaparish.com

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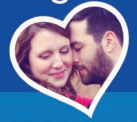
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Courtney J. Ullrich
DMD

Valerie V. Woo
DMD



Dr. Woo is a Parishioner and STCS parent

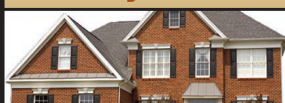
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