



## St. Therese Parish

9525 W Bluemound Rd  
Milwaukee, WI 53226

sttheresemke.org  
info@sttheresemke.org  
(414) 771-2500  
Facebook: @sttheresemke

*We are St. Therese Catholic Church, a community of believers, who walk together by faith in Christ Jesus, and minister in the Little Way of St. Therese, as we strive hand-in-hand to live as God's people.*

## St. Vincent Pallotti Parish

### East Church

5424 W Bluemound  
Milwaukee, WI 53208

stvincentpallotti.org / vpallotti@stvpc.org  
(414) 453-5344

Facebook: @stvincentpallottimke  
YouTube: @st.vincentpallottiparish

### West Church/Office

201 N 76th St  
Milwaukee, WI 53213



*A Community of disciples, nourished by the Eucharist, caring for each other and reaching out to others.*

## March 23, 2025

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

IT MAY BEAR  
FRUIT IN THE  
**FUTURE.**

LUKE 13:9

### Weekend Mass Schedule

Saturday 4:00PM - St. Vincent Pallotti - West  
Sunday 7:30AM - St. Vincent Pallotti - East  
9:00AM - St. Therese  
10:30AM - St. Vincent Pallotti - West

### Weekday Mass Schedule

Mon, Wed, Fri: 6:25AM - St. Vincent Pallotti - East  
Tues: 8:45AM - St. Therese  
Tues: 12 Noon - St. Vincent Pallotti - West  
Wed: 6:00PM - St. Therese  
Thurs: 12 Noon - St. Vincent Pallotti - West  
First Friday: 5:30PM - St. Vincent Pallotti - West

### Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday 3:15-3:45PM - St. Vincent Pallotti - West  
Sunday 6:45-7:15AM - St. Vincent Pallotti - East  
First Sunday of the Month - 8:15AM - St. Therese  
Or by appointment on weekdays

### Pray the Rosary

Saturday : 3:15PM - St. Vincent Pallotti - West  
Sunday: 7:00AM - St. Vincent Pallotti - East  
Third Sunday of the Month -10:00AM - St. Therese

### Adoration

First Friday 6:00PM - St. Vincent Pallotti - West

### Blessing of the Sick

After Mass on the First Full Weekend of the Month.  
You can also contact either Parish Office or Fr. Tom PC on his cell phone (414) 308-6238 to arrange a visit.

### Baptism, Marriage and RCIA

Please call either Parish Office.  
Preparation can take nine months or more.

### Funerals

Contact either Parish Office to plan.

### Parish Pastoral Council

1st Wednesday of the Month at 7:00PM

To contact a Parish Pastoral Council Member, send an email to [council@sttheresemke.org](mailto:council@sttheresemke.org) or leave a message for them in either parish office. Meeting minutes are available in the parish offices.

#### Chairperson

Art Nennig

#### Vice Chairperson

Brett Surinak

#### Secretary

Jennifer Tierney

#### Trustees

Dennis Ferger – STP (414) 546-7330

Christopher Gauthier – SVP (414) 302-1033

Ann Maher – STP (414) 698-7016

Lenny Schaefer – SVP (414) 534-1450

#### Members-At-Large

David Helterbran    Linda Okruhlica  
Sr. Marilyn Metz    Tom Ratkowski  
Mary Noeske

**Saint Vincent de Paul**  
(414) 462-7837

#### Hospital Visits

The Federal Privacy Regulation (HIPAA—Health Insurance Portability & Accountability Act) prohibits hospitals from informing churches of a patient's presence unless the patient gives permission for the hospital to do so. If you are admitted to a hospital and would like a pastoral visit, please contact either Parish Office.

#### Prayer List for Mass

It is our privilege to pray at our weekend masses for those in need. If you would like to add a name to the list, please contact either Parish Office.

#### Need Prayer?

Call the Prayer Network at  
(414) 810-9844

#### Need Holy Communion?

Call either Parish Office

*The March 30 bulletin  
deadline has passed. The  
next available bulletin is  
April 6.*

### Pastor of St. Vincent Pallotti Parish & St. Therese Parish

Fr. Thomas Pulikkeel Chacko, SAC  
ext. 1 at St. Therese and ext. 102 at St. Vincent Pallotti  
[fr.thomaspc@stvpc.org](mailto:fr.thomaspc@stvpc.org)  
(414) 308-6238

### St. Therese Parish Staff

**Office** (414) 771-2500 – For Parish Emergencies After Hours, Push 0

**Office Hours:** Friday and Saturday: Closed    Sunday: 10:00AM-11:30AM  
Mon, Tues, Wed, & Thurs: 8:00AM–12:00PM    Onsite; 12:00PM–4:00PM    Remote

#### Director of Administrative Services

Heather Goeden    ext. 2  
[heather@sttheresemke.org](mailto:heather@sttheresemke.org)

#### Finance Director

Christine Jensen    ext. 4  
[christine@sttheresemke.org](mailto:christine@sttheresemke.org)

#### Choir Director

Carrie Sanders

#### Organist

Kathy Luty

#### Catechesis Ministry

Sr. Marilyn Metz –  
Co-Coordinator Preschool to Grade 8 Program  
& Coordinator of First Reconciliation and First  
Communion: [gr2\\_3@sttheresemke.org](mailto:gr2_3@sttheresemke.org)

Mary Rose Sanger – Co-Coordinator Preschool  
to Grade 8 Program:  
[mrs77stt@sttheresemke.org](mailto:mrs77stt@sttheresemke.org)

Rick Reinders – Coordinator of High School &  
Youth Confirmation: [rreinders@sttheresemke.org](mailto:rreinders@sttheresemke.org)

### St. Vincent Pallotti Parish Staff

**Office** (414) 453-5344

**Office Hours:** Monday through Friday: 8:30AM-3:30PM

#### Director of Admin & Development

Susana Cuellar    ext. 109  
[sscuellar@stvpc.org](mailto:sscuellar@stvpc.org)

#### Director of Liturgy & Music

Carrie Sanders (414) 258-4165  
ext. 107  
[csanders@stvpc.org](mailto:csanders@stvpc.org)

#### Food Service Director

Laura Ruiz-Reyes    ext. 120  
[lruiz-reyes@stvpc.org](mailto:lruiz-reyes@stvpc.org)

#### Secretary

Lori Gabert    ext. 101  
[lgabert@stvpc.org](mailto:lgabert@stvpc.org)

#### Bookkeeper

Kari Utzerath    ext. 104  
[kutzerath@stvpc.org](mailto:kutzerath@stvpc.org)

#### Scrip Coordinator

Therese Schaefer    (414) 534-3836

#### Librarian

[librarian@stvpc.org](mailto:librarian@stvpc.org)

### St. Vincent Pallotti Parish School Staff

Office: (414) 258-4165    Fax: (414) 258-9844

#### Principal

Joe Fryda    ext. 111  
[jfryda@stvps.org](mailto:jfryda@stvps.org)

#### Vice Principal

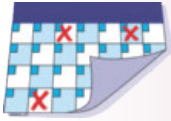
Tracy Irwin    ext. 114  
[tirwin@stvps.org](mailto:tirwin@stvps.org)

#### Office Manager/ Choice Coordinator

Lirse Jones    ext. 110  
[ljones@stvps.org](mailto:ljones@stvps.org)

### Parish Membership / Support

Anyone over age 18 is invited to register as an adult member.  
Please call either Parish Office for more information.



# Events for the Week

STP = St. Therese Parish    SVP-E = St. Vincent Pallotti East Church  
SVP-W = St. Vincent Pallotti West Church

## Sunday, March 23

### St. Therese Parish Office Closed

- 6:45AM Reconciliation at SVP-E
- 7:30AM Mass at SVP-E
- 9:00AM Mass at STP—Live Streamed on Facebook
- 9:15AM Children's Liturgy of the Word at STP
- 10:00AM Sunday Morning Catechesis Preschool – Grade 8 Program at STP
- 10:00AM First Communion Preparation at STP
- 10:00AM 4th Sunday Formation STP
- 10:30AM Mass at SVP-W – Live Streamed and Posted
- 10:45AM Children's Liturgy of the Word at SVP –W
- 11:30AM 4th Sunday Formation at SVP-W

## Monday, March 24

- 6:25AM Morning Mass at SVP-E
- 6:00PM St. Vincent de Paul Society Meeting at STP

## Tuesday, March 25

- 8:45AM Morning Mass at STP
- 9:15AM Bible Study at STP
- 12:00PM Afternoon Mass at SVP-W
- 6:30PM Finance Council at STP

## Wednesday, March 26

- 6:25AM Morning Mass at SVP-E
- 5:30PM Lenten Stations at STP
- 6:00PM Evening Mass at STP

## Thursday, March 27

- 11:00AM Reconciliation at SVP-W
- 11:30AM Lenten Stations at SVP-W
- 12:00PM Afternoon Mass at SVP-W
- 4:00PM Choir Rehearsal at SVP-W
- 6:30PM Prayer & Worship Committee at STP
- 7:00PM Group 100 AA

## Friday, March 28

- 6:25AM Morning Mass at SVP-E
- 9:00AM Church Cleaning at SVP-W
- 11:00AM Reconciliation at STP
- 12:00PM Lenten Stations at STP
- 6:30PM Lenten Stations at SVP-E

## Saturday, March 29

- 3:15PM Confessions at SVP-W
- 3:15PM Rosary at SVP-W
- 4:00PM Mass at SVP-W

## Sunday, March 30

### Safe Environment Week/SCRIP Order Weekend at STP

- 6:45AM Reconciliation at SVP-E
- 7:30AM Mass at SVP-E
- 9:00AM Mass at STP—Live Streamed on Facebook
- 10:00AM Sunday Morning Catechesis Preschool – Grade 8 Program at STP
- 10:00AM Emmaus 90 Watch Party at STP
- 10:30AM Mass at SVP-W – Live Streamed and Posted
- 6:30PM Lenten Mission: Night 1 at SVP-W

# Intentions & Readings for the Week



## March Sanctuary Candle at STP

The Krebs Family

## Sunday, March 23

Readings Ex3:1-8a, 13-15/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8, 11 (8a)/1Cor 10:1-6, 10-12/Lk 13:1-9

## Monday, March 24

Readings 2 Kgs 5:1-15b/Ps 42:2, 3; 43:3, 4/Lk 4:24-30  
6:25AM (SVP-E)

## Tuesday, March 25

Observance: The Annunciation of the Lord

Readings Is 7:10-14; 8:10/Ps 40:7-8a, 8b-9, 10, 11/Heb 10:4-10/Lk 1:26-38  
8:45AM (STP) Terry Valdovinos  
12:00PM (SVP-W)

## Wednesday, March 26

Readings Dt 4:1, 5-9/Ps 147:12-13, 15-16, 19-20/Mt 5:17-19  
6:25AM (SVP-E)  
8:15AM (SVP-W) School Mass  
6:00PM (STP) St. Therese Parish Community

## Thursday, March 27

Readings Jer 7:23-28/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9/Lk 11:14-23  
12:00PM (SVP-W)

## Friday, March 28

Readings Hos 14:2-10/Ps 81:6c-8a, 8bc-9, 10-11ab, 14 and 17/Mk 12:28-34  
6:25AM (SVP-E)

## Saturday Mass, March 29

Readings Hos 6:1-6/Ps 51:3-4, 18-19, 20-21ab/Lk 18:9-14  
4:00PM (SVP-W) †Loretta Catt

## Sunday Mass, March 30 – Fourth Sunday of Lent

Readings Jos 5:9a, 10-12/Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7(9a)/2Cor 5:17-21/Lk 15:1-3, 11-32  
7:30AM (SVP-E) Parishioners  
9:00AM (STP) †Edward Smith and the St. Therese Parish Community  
10:30AM (SVP-W) †Theresa DiSilvestro (The Fugarino Family)



To be included, please call either Parish Office.

Born to Eternal Life: †Quinnlan Shields

Dorothy Ash, Peter Carlis, Brandon Choe, Irene Czarnecki, Michael Czarnecki, Pat D'Amore, Nancy Dineen, Dean Doberstein, Kylie Doyne, Marge Dunn, Elizabeth and Elijah, Jan Eno, Kathleen Fugasco, Family G, Sue Grignon, Blakely Gurgul, Matthew Harrison, Dan Heinz, Linda Huber, Josette Jaeger, Mary Kirchner, Helen Klister, Julie Kross, Rachel Lund, Kathy Manthe, Debbie Martin, Loretta Merz, Robert Metrey, Bob O'Neil, Fr. Norm Oswald, Celeste Rau, Jacob & Jaxson Rivera, Ruben Seegert, Kaity Shields, Michael Sullivan, Robert Szablewski, Beverly T., Rosann Thate, Terry Valdovinos, John Wachowiak, Crystal Webb, Chris Wehausen





### Altered Office Hours

- Sunday, March 23: Closed
- Monday, March 24 through Thursday, March 27: 8:00AM – Noon; Closed PM



### St Therese Reuniting Us As “One Nation, Under God” Prayer Service

Thank you to all that attended the “Stations of the Cross” prayer service last weekend in place of our Rosary and Meditation. We will not have our Rosary and Meditation in April due to Easter. The next Rosary and Meditation will occur May 18.

### Mass Schedule Change

Please note that the daily Masses on Tuesday, April 22 and Wednesday, April 23 are canceled. This includes Adoration as well. We will resume our normal weekday Mass schedule on Tuesday, April 29.

### Volunteer Opportunities:

#### Liturgical Ministers

Sign up to serve as a Lector, Hospitality Minister, Altar Server or Eucharistic Minister. We are grateful for those who sign up and minister often - but they need your help! If you are interested in joining a ministry, there are written instructions, as well as mentors, for those who are new to these ministries.

#### Sacristan for Funerals and Special Masses

We are in need of some additional people to serve as sacristans for funerals and at special/holiday Masses. You would help set up for the funeral Mass (putting out the bread and wine, possibly serving as a Eucharistic Minister, setting up the incense and taking care of it throughout the liturgy, etc.)

#### Technology Helper—Church

Learn how to use the technology in church to run a video or presentation. These people would be willing to do this on an as needed basis.

#### Technology Helper—Miriam’s Corner

Learn how to use the technology in Miriam’s Corner to show a video, presentation, run a zoom meeting (hybrid meeting), etc. Ideally, we’d have a couple of people from each committee learn how to do this.

#### Live Streaming

Live stream the Sunday 9:00AM Mass. Those interested would have to be 18 years of age or older and have a Facebook account in good standing.

If you are interested and willing to participate in any of these ministries, please contact Heather in the Parish Office.

**9:00AM Sunday Mass Live-Streamed on our Facebook page. It is also posted on our website after Mass.**

### Annual Meeting – Save the Date

The St. Therese Annual Parish Meeting will take place on Sunday, May 4, after the 9:00AM Mass. Please mark your calendars. More information will be in the April bulletins. A luncheon celebrating Fr. PC’s 20th Anniversary of Ordination will follow! All are invited.



### Trustee-Treasurer Election

The election of the Trustee-Treasurer for our parish corporation will take place at this year’s Annual Meeting on Sunday, May 4. Dennis Ferger has agreed to be Fr. Thomas’ nominee for the Trustee-Treasurer position for another two-year term of office beginning July 1, 2025 and ending June 30, 2027. If you are interested in the position of Trustee-Treasurer, candidates must be nominated, in writing, by 10 or more parish members. A nomination and signature form is available in the parish office for anyone who wishes to put their name in nomination. Any active, registered, fully-initiated parish member, at least 25 years of age, is eligible to run for Trustee-Treasurer.

### SCRIP Next Sunday

Gift card orders through the SCRIP program will be taken next Sunday, March 30. Consider giving a gift card to a friend or family member this Easter. And don’t forget those everyday purchases. Our parish receives a percentage on every gift card you order. Just complete the form enclosed in today’s bulletin and bring it to mass next Sunday. Or you may download a form from the St. Therese website to be received no later than Thursday, March 27. Your gift cards will be available the following Sunday, in plenty of time for Easter. Many thanks for participating in this fundraiser for our parish.

### Donation Opportunities

- Vacuum Cleaner—\$150
- Palms – \$175
- Lenten & Easter Booklets – \$155

If you would like to donate the cost or toward the cost of one of these items, please contact Heather Goeden in the Parish Office. Please let her know if your donation is in honor or memory of someone and whether or not we may acknowledge your donation in the bulletin.

### Flower/Candle Donations for the Easter Season

Easter begins with the celebration of the Easter Vigil on April 19 and continues through the Solemnity of Pentecost on June 8.

Please consider a donation of any amount in memory of a loved one or for a special intention to help us keep fresh flowers and plants for the church environment during this Easter Season.



### Candle and Flower Donations—PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Donor Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Amount Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Select one:  In Memory  In Honor  In Thanksgiving  
 Intention \_\_\_\_\_ Publish?  Yes  No  Print intention Only

Looking to donate online? Use the QR Code on the right to make a contribution to St. Therese Parish on our online giving website. Thank you for your generosity.



### CHURCH SUPPORT

Collection Totals will be reported on the second weekend of the month.

Please remember St. Therese in your will!



**Volunteer Bakers!** Our Lenten Mission is on Sunday, March 30 at 6:30pm and we are in need of baked goods. Volunteers are asked for 1-2 dozen treats. Please sign up on the website. Bring them to Mass on March 29-30 or bring them when you attend the event. Please arrive 15 minutes early. Thank you!!!

### LARGE PRINT MASS MATERIALS

Black folders with large print Mass materials are available with the *Gather* books at the East and West churches for use during Mass. If you would like us to continue providing these large print materials, please call the parish office or email the parish librarian.

Office: 414-453-5344 Email: [librarian@stvpc.org](mailto:librarian@stvpc.org)

These large print materials will be discontinued after Easter unless we hear from you.

### HOME VISIT MINISTRY

If you are interested in having a home visit with Fr. Tom PC so that he can get to know you and bless your home, go to the SVP website and sign up, or call the parish office. Once you choose the time, someone will follow up to confirm your appointment.



### Combined Celebration of Volunteer Appreciation Day and National Service Week in Memory of St. Vincent Pallotti

A celebratory luncheon will be held on Sunday, April 27 at 11:30am at St. Vincent Pallotti Parish Center.

More details and RSVP info will follow. Please mark your calendars.



### WITH HEARTFELT SYMPATHY

Please remember in your prayers:

**Fr. Richard Lorenz, SAC** whose funeral was this past week.

**Vicki Wilmer** (Former Lunch Lady at SVP)

Vicki's funeral is on Friday, March 28.

Visitation is at 11am and Mass is at Noon at the West Church.

# Did You Know???

## HOW TO DO PERSONAL PRAYER

**1) Show Up.** Most days, we don't pray simply because we don't quite get around to it. Perhaps the best metaphor to describe our hurried and distracted lives is that of a car wash. For most of us, that's just what our typical day does to us—it sucks us through. Prayer is truly a discipline. Show up!

**2) Quiet Your Heart.** Solitude is a form of awareness, a way of being present and perceptive within all of life. It's having a dimension of reflectiveness in our daily lives that brings gratitude, appreciation, peacefulness, enjoyment, and prayer. It's the sense, within ordinary life, that life is precious, sacred, and enough.

**3) Look Inside.** Our culture can keep us so entertained, busy, preoccupied, and distracted that we lose all focus on the deeper things. We have to know when it's time to unplug the television, turn off the phone, shut down the computer, silence the iPod, lay away the sports page, and resist going out for coffee with a friend, so that, for one moment, we're not avoiding making friends with the deepest part of us.

**4) Be Honest, Vulnerable, Bold.** God asks us to bring our helplessness, weaknesses, imperfections, and sin to him, to walk with him, and to never hide from him. God understands that we'll make mistakes and disappoint him and ourselves. What God asks is simply that we come home, share our lives with him, and let him help us in those ways we're powerless to help ourselves.

**5) Let Go of Anxiety and Shame.** Faith doesn't have you believe that you'll have no worries, or that you won't make mistakes, or that you and your loved ones won't sometimes fall victim to accident or sickness. What faith gives you is the assurance that God is good, can be trusted, won't forget you, and is solidly in charge. Faith says that God is real, God is Lord, and there's ultimately nothing to fear. We're in safe hands. Reality is gracious, forgiving, loving, redeeming, and absolutely trustworthy.

**6) Listen for God's Voice and Accept God's Love.** We're surrounded by many voices. How do we recognize God's voice among and within all of these others? God is the author of everything that's good, whether it bears a religious label or not. Hence, God's voice is inside many things that aren't explicitly connected to faith and religion.



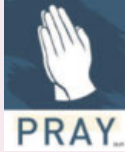
For an on-line copy of our weekly combined bulletin, please refer to our website at: [www.stvincentpallotti.org](http://www.stvincentpallotti.org)



### Lenten Prayer Opportunities

#### Daily Mass

- Mon, Wed, Fri: 6:25AM - SVP-E
- Tues: 8:45AM - STP and 12 Noon - SVP-W
- Wed: 6:00PM - STP
- Thurs: 12 Noon - SVP-W
- First Friday: 5:30PM – SVP-W



#### Lenten Reconciliation Opportunities

- SVP-W: 11:00-11:45AM on Thurs. and 3:15- 3:45PM on Sat.
- SVP-E: 6:45AM - 7:15AM on Sundays (*Enter at Northwest Door*)
- STP: 11:00-11:45AM on Fridays and Sunday, April 6 at 8:15AM *Private Confessions by Appointment. Call either Parish Office.*

#### Lenten Stations

- SVP-W: 11:30AM on Thursdays
- SVP-E: 6:30PM on Fridays
- STP: 5:30PM on Wednesdays and Noon on Fridays

### Lenten Observances for Fast and Abstinence

The Catholic Church asks each member to preserve the penitential character and purpose of Lent. For this reason:



- Catholics who have celebrated their 14th birthday are bound to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and each Friday of Lent.
- Catholics who have celebrated their 18th birthday, in addition to abstaining from meat, should fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. Hence, on those days they should eat only one full meal. Smaller quantities of food may be taken at two other meals, but no food should be consumed at other times during those days. The obligation of fasting ceases with the celebration of one's 59th birthday.

Catholics should not lightly excuse themselves from these prescribed minimal penitential practices.

### Lenten Giving 2025 – Making a Difference

St. Therese and St. Vincent Pallotti's Lenten Giving recipient is Guest House of Milwaukee, a model of innovation in addressing the root causes of homelessness, and provides the comprehensive services necessary to overcome it. Won't you please help? Our Lenten almsgiving will help Guest House with hot meals. Visit [guesthouseofmilwaukee.org](http://guesthouseofmilwaukee.org) to learn more. Your donation can be made online, in church or by mail. Please make out checks to St. Therese or St. Vincent Pallotti Parish and label it "Lenten Giving" in the memo line. Return your donation by April 27. Questions? Call Shari at (414) 771-1668.



### Catechesis Corner

#### Upcoming Class Schedule:

- o CLOW: April 13
- o Sunday Morning Age 3 – Grade 8: March 30
- o High School Program and Confirmation Prep: April 6
- o First Communion Prep: April 6



### Altered Bulletin Deadlines for April

- April 13 Bulletin - Submissions due April 3 at 8:30AM
- April 20 Bulletin - Submissions due April 8 at 8:30AM
- April 27 Bulletin - Submissions due April 15 at 8:30AM



### Fourth Sunday Formation

Fourth Sunday Formation is a wonderful way to understand and practice different aspects of Catholic Identity. In under 15 minutes, with a short video after Mass, you will have a better idea of why and how to participate in the Sacrament of Reconciliation; sometimes referred to as Penance or Confession. There are multiple opportunities for this sacrament during Lent. Check the bulletin. The handout afterwards will have an examination of conscience to help you prepare.

### Emmaus 90 – 2025

Our final Emmaus 90 formation session of the year will be **Sunday, March 30 following the 9:00AM Mass at St. Therese.** (*Please note the new date!*) The session is approximately 30 minutes. Everyone is welcome to join us!

### Save the Date for Fr. PC's 20th Anniversary of Ordination Celebration!

Our parishes have two events coming up in May - the St. Therese Parish Annual Meeting and Fr. PC's 20th Anniversary of Ordination Celebration and both happen to fall on the same day - May 4th.



Here is the timeline for the day:

- Fr. PC will preside at the 9:00AM Mass at St. Therese where the catechesis students will receive their First Communion. *Note: SVP will still have 7:30AM and 10:30AM Mass.*
- St. Therese will hold their Annual Parish Meeting from about 10:30AM until 11:30AM.
- The celebration for Fr. PC's anniversary will begin about 11:30AM (*Parishioners from both parishes are invited to attend.*) Please RSVP using the QR code on the right or by calling either Parish Office.



We are looking for volunteers from both parishes to coordinate each of the following areas:

- Set up for the meeting and celebration on May 3
- Food pick up/drop off (Details TBD)
- Contact bakers from both parishes
- Set up the morning of May 4 (make coffee, put out some bakery, transition to luncheon, etc)
- Clean up and take down.

It will be important to have these main volunteers in place by April 10 so that everyone has time to get additional volunteers to help and ask any questions you have. If you are able to help, please contact Heather in the St. Therese Parish Office at [heather@sttheresemke.org](mailto:heather@sttheresemke.org) or (414) 771-2500 x2.

### Holy Thursday Soup and Bread Supper

Please join us for a Soup and Bread Supper before the Holy Thursday Mass on April 17 from 5:30PM-6:30PM in Heck Hall at St. Therese, hosted by the Christian Formation Committee. An assortment of soups and bread will be offered to share as we begin the Easter Triduum. Please use the QR code, see the Signup Genius on the website, or call either Parish Office to RSVP or volunteer some time or soup.



### From the Earth Ministry:

In several prior articles we cited the enormous environmental harm posed by plastic. One impetus for focusing on the



plastics problem was Earth Day 2024's Global Theme of "Planet vs Plastics." A few weeks ago, we mentioned that only 5% of the plastic placed in recycle containers ends up being reused. Hence the accumulation of waste plastic in our world continues unabated. In fact, it is estimated that at current rates, by the year 2050, the weight of discarded plastic in the World's oceans will exceed the weight of all the fish.

We also mentioned that tiny fragments of plastics, called "microplastics" are found in water bottles, food packaging and synthetic fabrics. Microplastics and their much smaller counterpart, "nanoplastics" accumulate when ingested by animals and humans. Autopsies of human brains conducted in 2024 found a 50% increase in the amount of brain-resident plastic compared to autopsies from 2016. Scientists say that today's human brain consists of 99.5% brain matter and .5% plastic. The harmful effects of this are presently unknown, but the growing accumulation can't be good.

So here are a few things you can do to 1) keep your brain comprised as God intended, and 2) keep waste plastic from smothering our planet:

- Purchase beverages in recyclable aluminum cans, bottles or cartons.
- Avoid heating or microwaving food in plastic or styrofoam containers -- heat speeds the release of plastic particles into food.
- Choose glass, metal or ceramic storage containers instead of plastic for pantry stock and leftovers.
- Drink tap water by the glass or from reusable bottles: A 2024 study found that a single liter of bottled water can contain more than 240,000 plastic particles.
- Use cloth or paper shopping bags instead of plastic ones.
- Avoid fruits and vegetables prepackaged in plastic.

### Annual Mass of Atonement

The Annual Mass of Atonement will be held on Tuesday, April 1 at Holy Family Catholic Community (271 Fourth St. Way, Fond du Lac) at 6:00PM. Stations of the Cross will be at 5:00PM. As we gather once again for the annual Mass of Atonement, you are invited to join in turning to our loving God in prayer. In our time together, we will not only seek the grace of conversion for our own hearts but ask for renewed spirits to continue the work of healing within the Church on behalf of our sisters and brothers most deeply affected by abuse. May we actively participate in God's healing action.

### MEN of St. Vincent Pallotti and St. Therese Parishes:

You are being called, you are being invited, you are being challenged ... to be a Man of Christ.

This year's Men of Christ Conference, Courage Under Fire, is on Saturday March 29. Again this year, as has been the case for the last several, it will be a live/livestreamed hybrid event. Our closest hosting parish is Our Mother of Perpetual Help on 106th and Lincoln in West Allis. Come join other men of our archdiocese and beyond to learn, be challenged and grow to being better men, husbands, fathers, friends, leaders in a world that surely needs us to step up. We will start with the rosary and Mass and end about 2:00PM. In between, our day is packed with dynamic men who will help renew your commitment to our Christian faith, instill courage through practical examples of leadership, and transform you to stand firm as a beacon of hope. There is no set cost for the conference this year, though a good will donation is recommended, pay what you can and feel is right.

Will you accept and be a Man of Christ?!

For more information and to register, contact Mike Griffin at (414) 248-1653 or patandgriff@yahoo.com or go to menofchrist.net. See you there. Our families, our society, our Church needs you!



We all have false idols that prevent a right relationship with God. We need rigorous self-examination to root out those weedy patches of our souls. As symbols of hope, seeds remind us that sacrifice is necessary to bear good fruit. Our presenter, back by popular request, is Al McCauley Director of Adult Faith Formation at St. Anthony on the Lake.

### Dates

- **Sunday, March 30, 2025** from 6:30PM – 7:30PM at St. Vincent Pallotti Parish (201 N. 76th Street)
- **Monday, March 31, 2025** from 6:30PM – 7:30PM at St. Therese Parish (9525 W. Bluemound Rd)

To sign up, please call or email either Parish Office, scan the QR code on the right, or visit the SVP website.



### Questions?

Lori Gabert at SVP at (414) 453-5344 or lgabert@stvpc.org  
Heather Goeden at STP at (414) 771-2500 or heather@sttheresemke.org



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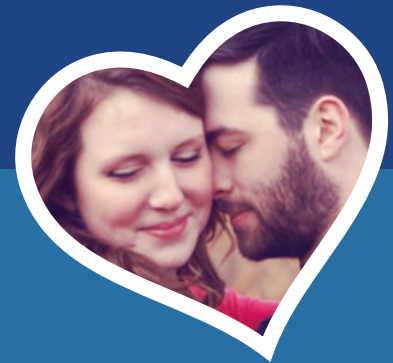
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