



December 2009

Christmas Greetings,

Today, we celebrate God's love for us in the birth of Jesus, our Savior. In the midst of many good things: presents, family gatherings, and much more, please keep focused on Jesus, the Star and True Light of the world. Keep the joy and excitement of Jesus' birth alive in your heart and home.

St. Teresa is a great parish of 1,300 households and opportunities for everyone to be involved as shown by the contact list on the back of this page. If you are new to the area or desire to become more involved, please contact a staff member listed below or the contact list phone numbers. Join us in many spiritual events throughout the year. Your suggestions to the staff and Pastoral Council are appreciated.

Pope Benedict XVI has asked the Church throughout the world to celebrate a special year dedicated to the priesthood that began June 19, 2009 until June 19, 2010. He picked that date, since June 19 is the Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and this year is the 150th anniversary of the death of St. John Vianney, the patron saint of priests. St. John was renowned as a humble priest in France, who dedicated his life to his parishioners. The Pope asks everyone to reflect upon the Sacrament of Priesthood, pray for priestly vocations, and for priests to deepen their faith and ministry. We have moved our statue of St. John Vianney to the votive candles for extra prayers.

Each day I pray for all St. Teresa Parish members and on every Sunday and Holy Day a Mass is offered for the living and deceased members of St. Teresa Parish. If you have had difficulties in the past with the Church or individuals, please be willing to start anew with God and St. Teresa Parish. Contact any of us to help you or those seeking to return to the Church.

God bless you this Christmas and in 2010.

Fr. Tom Bolte
Pastor

Fr. George Schmitz
Clergy Assistance

Fr. Dennis Dettmeyer
Clergy Assistance

Deacon Mike Dargatzis
Pastoral Ministry

Dean Greg Rose
Pastoral Ministry

Rick Davis
Music & Worship Director

Michelle G. Thomas
Religious Education Associate

Sharon Willmes
School Principal

Jani Buckner
Financial Director

Bill Thomas
Physical Plant Director

Maria Glandorf
Parish Office Director

1175 Overlook Ave · Cincinnati, Ohio 45238 · 921-9200

St. Teresa of Avila Parish Contact People

Parish Office 921-9200; Fax 921-0307; Parish Web Site www.stteresa-avila.org; Parish e-mail stteresa@fuse.net; School Office 471-4530; School Web Site www.stteresa.net; School e-mail vogt_s@stteresa.net

Pastoral Staff

God, Overall in Charge
Fr. Tom Bolte, Pastor
Fr. George Schmitz, In Residence
Fr. Dennis Dettenwanger, Retired
Deacon Mike Davenport, Pastoral Ministry
Deacon Gregg Rose, Pastoral Ministry
Ms. Michelle Thoman, Religious Ed. Associate
Mrs. Sharon Willmes, Principal
Mrs. Terri Buckner, Financial Director
Mr. Rick Davis, Music/Worship Director
Mr. Bill Thoman, Physical Plant Director
Mrs. Maria Glandorf, Parish Office Director

Pastoral Council

President, Mr. Dean Seaman 244-2963
Vice-President, Mr. Chris James 251-5503
Mrs. Cherie Frey 921-1251
Mr. Mike Gleason 471-0522
Mr. Mark Haufler 588-3440
Mrs. Denise Murphy 451-1001

Education Commission

Alison Scholl, Representative 543-0497
Athletic Association, John Schatzman 347-9455
Baptismal Preparation: Deacons 921-9200
Bible Study: Fr. Dennis & Deacon Mike 921-9200
Caring Companions: Deacon Gregg 921-9200
Christ Renews His Parish:
Deacon Mike & Sue Kreutzer 921-9200
Early Childhood Religion Classes 921-9200
Home Schooling: Michelle Thoman 921-9200
Marriage Preparation Team:
Roger & Maria Glandorf 251-7729
Parish School of Religion: M. Thoman 921-9200
Respect Life Committee: Laura Prince 574-5060
Friday morning Men's Group:
Roger Glandorf 251-7729
Latchkey: Karen Rackers 921-4727
Life in the Spirit Seminar:
Sue Freudiger & Mary Hennessey 921-9200
Parent Teacher Group:
Shannon Darnell 244-6626
RCIA: Deacon Gregg Rose 921-9200
Scouting:
Cub Scouts: Heinz Ahlers 251-2771
Boy Scouts: Stan Snodgrass 244-6726
Venture Crew: John Hageman 921-6730
Girl Scouts: Elaine James 251-5503
Summer Science Camp: Cindy Bihl 471-8050
Vacation Bible School: M. Thoman 921-9200
H.S. Youth Activities: M. Thoman 921-9200
7th & 8th Grade Youth Group:

Worship Commission

Laura Prince, Representative 574-5060
Bereavement, Dee Meyer 451-6709
Charismatic Prayer Group:
Sue Freudiger 451-2162
Church Cleaners: Cathy Lohbeck 251-4890
Eucharistic Adoration:
Jack & Mary Barnhorn 471-2103
Eucharistic Home Visitations:
Laura Holland 471-2417
Eucharistic Minister: Sue Freudiger 451-2162
Hospital Visitation: Parish Office 921-9200
Lectors: Sue Kreutzer 481-6123
Liturgy of the Word for Children:
Michelle Thoman 921-9200
Prayer Chain: Cherie Frey 921-1251
Music Groups:
Adult Choir: Rick Davis 921-9200
Contemporary Group: Rick Davis 921-9200
Chime Choir: Rick Davis 921-9200
High School/College Age Contemporary:
Emily Hahn 471-1536
Servers: Fr. Bolte & Jack Barnhorn 921-9200
Ushers & Greeters: Mike Kappa 921-2378
Wedding Facilitators:
Kathy Bogenschutz 936-1207
Finance Commission
Rich Messerle, Representative 923-1926
Advent Giving Tree: Aimee Hart 251-6376
Bingo: Fran Veder 451-2581
Building & Grounds: Bill Thoman 921-9200
Bulletin/Bell Tower Newsletter 921-9200
Christian Outreach:
Mark & Mary Hennessey 921-1974
Collection Counters: Ruth Branigan 467-0272
Festival: Chris Gramke 244-2993
500 Card Marathon: Helen Moorman 451-2232
Grounds Beautification:
Chris Artmayer 922-6096
Parish Office Help Mailings:
Sue Eichhorn 251-2415
Rice Bowl Lenten Program:
Rose Stitzel 451-6383
Shoppers Certificate Program:
Cherie Frey 921-1251
St. Joe's Men's Society: Tom Frey 471-9427
St. Teresa Ladies Softball:
Karen Gleason 471-0522
St. Teresa Men's Softball:
Jerry Brengelman 921-1867
St. Vincent de Paul: Parish Office 921-9200
Senior Adult Group: Fr. Bolte 921-9200
Summer Food Drive: Mary Hennessey 921-1974

THE LEGEND OF THE CHRISTMAS SPIDER (A FOLK LEGEND FROM GERMANY AND THE UKRAINE)



Once upon a time, long ago, a gentle mother was busily cleaning the house for the most wonderful day of the year The day on which the Christ child came to bless the house. Not a speck of dust was left. Even the spiders had been banished from their cozy corner in the ceiling to avoid the housewife's busy cleaning. They finally fled to the farthest corner of the attic.

T'was the Christmas Eve at last! The tree was decorated and waiting for the children to see it. But the poor spiders were frantic, for they could not see the tree, nor be present for the Christ child's visit. But the oldest and wisest spider suggested that perhaps they could peep through the crack in the door to see him.

Silently they crept out of their attic, down the stairs, and across the floor to wait in the crack threshold. Suddenly, the door opened a wee bit and quickly the spiders scurried into the room. They must see the tree closely, since their eyes weren't accustomed to the brightness of the room... so they crept all over the tree, up and down, over every branch and twig and saw every one of the pretty things. At last, they satisfied themselves completely of the Christmas beauty.

But alas!! Everywhere they went they had left their webs, and when the little Christ child came to bless the house He was dismayed. He loved the little spiders, for they were God's creatures too, but he knew the mother, who had timed the tree for the little children, would not feel the same, so He touched the webs and they all turned to sparkling, shimmering, silver and gold!

Ever since that time, we have hung tinsel on our Christmas trees, and according to the legend, it has been a custom to include a spider among the decorations on the tree.

