



St. Therese Catholic Church

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December 23, 2009

Dear Parishioners of St. Therese,

When Mary Immaculate, the finest and most fragrant flower of all creation, said in answer to the angel's greeting: 'Behold the handmaid of the Lord,' she accepted the honor of divine motherhood, which was at that time realized within her. And we, born once in our father Adam, formerly the adopted sons and daughters of God but fallen from that high estate, are now once more brothers and sisters, adopted children of the Father, restored to his adoption by the redemption which has already begun. At the foot of the Cross we shall all be children of Mary, with that same Jesus whom she conceived. From that moment onwards she will be Mother of God and our Mother too. -Pope John XXIII



The Solemnity of Mary is a Holy Day of Obligation
Our Holy Day Mass schedule will be:

| | | |
|-----------------|---------------------------------|----------------|
| Thursday | December 31st | 4:00 pm |
| | | 5:30 pm |
| Friday | January 1st | 9:00 am |

There will be a **First Communion Parents' Meeting** in the church on Wednesday, January 6th and Sunday, January 10th. The **First Communion Retreat** for 2nd grade students will take place on Saturday, April 10th. These are two important times of preparation. The **First Communion Mass** will be Sunday, April 25th.

It will be our pleasure to welcome Bishop Paul Swain to our parish on the occasion of conferring the **Sacrament of Confirmation** to our sophomore students during the 4:00pm Mass on **Saturday, January 16th, 2010**. In that there will be a larger crowd than normal at this Mass, you are invited to consider attending another Mass.

The 4:00pm Mass on Saturday, January 30th and all Masses on Sunday, January 31st will initiate **Catholic Schools week**. Our St. Therese and St. Lambert school principal, Barbara Lockwood, will be speaking at all Masses. The national theme this year is **Catholic Schools: Dividends for Life**.



For the third straight year the Neighborhood Parish Leaders will host a **Mexican Fiesta** for all adults of the parish on Saturday, January 23rd. The last two years have been extremely successful. The meal will be catered - Tickets will be on sale after all Masses beginning the weekend of January 2nd & 3rd.

Once again this year our **Youth will be selling pizzas as a fundraiser**. Orders will be taken after Masses during the month of January, beginning the weekend of the 9th and 10th, continuing the following two weekends. Pizzas may be picked up after Masses on the weekend of January 30th and 31st in time for Super Bowl Sunday!



The staff and I wish you Christmas joy and bountiful New Year blessings!

Fr. Hal Barber

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