

# Saint Theresa of the Child Jesus Catholic Church

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21st Sunday of Ordinary Time

August 27, 2017

Pope Francis' prayer intention for August: That artists of our time, through their ingenuity, may help everyone discover the beauty of creation.

WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS: August 26, 5:00 PM: Mary Leslie, RIP, August 27, 8:00 AM: Anita & John LaSusa, SI, 10:30 AM: For the people of the Parish, August 29, 9:00 AM: James & Emily Lunsford, SI, August 30, 9:00 AM: Thompson Family, SI, August 31, 9:00 AM: Earle Leslie, RIP, September 1, 9:00 AM: Walt Undeutsch, SI, Euel & Bille Musgorve, SI

**Fr Bean's lecture series on "Christian Mysticism" will continue this Wednesday, August 30 at 10:00 AM (Parish Life Center Hall). The topic will be "St. Catherine of Sienna".**

- YOUTH GROUP: Parent meeting—NCYC--National Catholic Youth Conference 9-12 graders- Sunday Sept 3 @ 6:00. Meet in the church library. Please come if you would like more information on this incredible experience for your Teenagers!!! Check out the website [www.ncyc.info](http://www.ncyc.info)
- Youth Gathering—This Wednesday August 30 @ 6:00-7:30 in the Youth Room.

**THIS WEEK IS FIRST FRIDAY: Mass, 9:00AM followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Prayers to the Sacred Heart and Anointing of the Sick.**

*AND*

**FIRST SATURDAY: Confessions at 11:30, Rosary at 12:00 PM and Mass at 12:30 PM**

***RCIA/Adult Formation...NEW START DATE:*** We know there is someone in your family who may be curious about the Church. You may sit next to a co-worker who is feeling "incomplete" " unfulfilled" "searching" and "afraid" to take the next step. Or perhaps you are a Catholic who wants a refresher course. This new class is open to all adults. **The first meeting will be on Sunday, September 3 at 9:00 AM in the Parish Life Center Library.** The text for this year's class is "Catholicism for Dummies" by Rev. John Trigilio. You may purchase a copy at Amazon, Books-a-Million or Barnes and Noble. Copies will available for purchase at the first meeting for \$15.00. Fr. Bean will be the instructor.

**PARISH FEAST DAY! Saturday, September 30: The Saint Theresa Festival! Food, Games, Live Music! This will be held outside on 3rd Avenue and inside at the Parish Life Center. Sunday, October 1: Feast Day of St. Theresa! Masses and an outdoor processional. **There will be a third meeting on Tuesday, September 5 for anyone and everyone who wants to help with this event. 7:00PM in the Parish Life Center Library.****

**The Marian Year of Grace of the Diocese of Birmingham in Alabama...the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Apparitions of Our Lady of Fatima....upcoming events in our Parish:**

- Beginning Sunday, September 10 the Parish will begin the "**33 Days to Morning Glory Retreat**". The best thing about this retreat is that it is done from the comfort of your own home! If you would like to participate, please send an email to [33daysST@gmail.com](mailto:33daysST@gmail.com). Each participant will need a copy of the book and access to the internet (computer, phone or tablet). Please contact DRE Samantha Wadsworth for more information...352-3741.

- October 7th, First Saturday and the Feast of the Holy Rosary. After confessions (11:30), Rosary (12:00) and Mass (12:30) in the church, we will gather in the Parish Life Center Hall for a simple lunch and Diane Penney's presentation entitled "*Coincidence? I Don't Think So!*" This presentation will highlight the connections (since 1517) among world events, appearances of Our Lord, Marian apparitions, Catholic Feast Days, and signs in the heavens. Please join us as we discern how our Lord is a God of order and harmony, even in private revelation.

*All youth of the parish are invited to join us for the Youth Eucharistic Congress on September 23. We will be taking a charter bus to the Shrine of the Blessed Sacrament. Please let Mrs. Wadsworth (205-863-9920) know if you would like to go. Confirmation and Theology of the Body Students should plan to attend. This is going to be a wonderful event!*

**THE 2017 CATHOLIC CHARITIES APPEAL: Pledge Sunday for this appeal is September 24. Our parish goal is \$36,000.00. The Bishop has set a Diocesan goal of \$4,305,000.00. Please be as generous as you can. Thank you!**

***The K of C 7th ANNUAL YARD SALE will be held on September 15-16 from 7:30 am-2:00 pm. Please save your donations this year for drop off on September 11-14. Clothing donations denim only please. Thank you!***

***SAINT OF THE WEEK: The Story of the Martyrdom of John the Baptist (Feast Day August 29)***

*The drunken oath of a king with a shallow sense of honor, a seductive dance and the hateful heart of a queen combined to bring about the martyrdom of John the Baptist. The greatest of prophets suffered the fate of so many Old Testament prophets before him: rejection and martyrdom. The "voice crying in the desert" did not hesitate to accuse the guilty, did not hesitate to speak the truth. But why? What possesses a man that he would give up his very life?*

*This great religious reformer was sent by God to prepare the people for the Messiah. His vocation was one of selfless giving. The only power that he claimed was the Spirit of Yahweh. "I am baptizing you with water, for repentance, but the one who is coming after me is mightier than I. I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire" (Matthew 3:11).*

*Scripture tells us that many people followed John looking to him for hope, perhaps in anticipation of some great messianic power. John never allowed himself the false honor of receiving these people for his own glory. He knew his calling was one of preparation. When the time came, he led his disciples to Jesus: "The next day John was there again with two of his disciples, and as he watched Jesus walk by, he said, 'Behold, the Lamb of God.' The two disciples heard what he said and followed Jesus" (John 1:35-37).*

*It is John the Baptist who has pointed the way to Christ. John's life and death were a giving over of self for God and other people. His simple style of life was one of complete detachment from earthly possessions. His heart was centered on God and the call that he heard from the Spirit of God speaking to his heart. Confident of God's grace, he had the courage to speak words of condemnation, repentance, and salvation.*

### **Reflection**

*Each of us has a calling to which we must listen. No one will ever repeat the mission of John, and yet all of us are called to that very mission. It is the role of the Christian to witness to Jesus. Whatever our position in this world, we are called to be disciples of Christ. By our words and deeds, others should realize that we live in the joy of knowing that Jesus is Lord. We do not have to depend upon our own limited resources, but can draw strength from the vastness of Christ's saving grace.*