

# Saint Thomas The Apostle Catholic Church

1720 NW 19<sup>th</sup> Street, Redmond, OR 97756

Very Rev. Todd Unger, Pastor

Rev. Alexandar Kalappurakkal Poulouse, Parochial Vicar

Deacon Chuck Amsberry

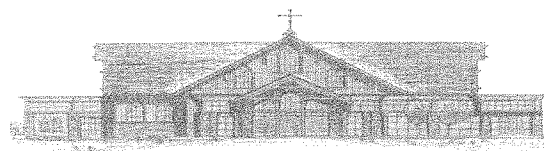
Former Pastors: Fr. Stan Strzyz

Please pray for the soul of:

Fr. John O'Donovan Fr. Michael Ahearne Fr. Francis McCormack

Msgr. William Stone Fr. Thomas Moore Msgr. Bernard Keating

Fr. Leo Weckerle Deacon Joseph Pickens



**JANUARY 14 AND 15, 2023 – SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**JANUARY 21 AND 22, 2023 – THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**OFFICE HOURS:** Monday-Friday 9:00am–5:00pm

**Phone:** 541-923-3390 - **Fax :** 541-548-6630 – **Rectory:** 541-548-3548

**St. Thomas Academy:** 541-548-3785

**Religious Education:** 541-923-0597 - Noël Roy, Director and Coordinator Grades K-12

**Hispanic Ministry:** 541-350-2922 Angie Ornelas; 541-410-1526 Faviola Soto

**Coordinator of Liturgical Music:** 541-815-3424 Nick Wavers; [musicministry@stthomasredmond.com](mailto:musicministry@stthomasredmond.com)

**Web page:** [www.stthomasredmond.com](http://www.stthomasredmond.com) & **e-mail:** [djensen@stthomasredmond.com](mailto:djensen@stthomasredmond.com)

**Pastor :** [fathertodd@stthomasredmond.com](mailto:fathertodd@stthomasredmond.com)

## WEEKLY SCHEDULE - HOLY MASSES:

Weekdays 8 AM

Wednesday 8AM and 6PM – 10AM Academy Mass

Saturday 5:00PM Vigil ~ First Saturday 8:00AM

Sunday 8AM, 10AM & 12Noon (Spanish)

## CONFESSION:

Wednesdays at 4:00-5:45pm and Saturdays at 3:00 to 4:30pm, or by appointment

## ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT:

Daily, from 8am-8pm

Friday, from 12Noon (24hrs) - closes at 12Noon on Saturday.

## ROSARY:

Daily – At 7:25 am, Before 8:00am Daily Holy Mass

First Saturday – Before 8:00am Holy Mass; on the 22<sup>nd</sup> Day of the month for Respect for Life at 7:25 am

## CANDLE INTENTIONS

Betty Barth – Sacred Heart ~ 1/15 – 1/28

Special Intention of Tim Krugh - Sacred Heart ~ 1/15 – 1/28

Kitty Tennille-Goicoa – Immaculate Mary ~ 1/15 – 1/28

+Craig Unger – Immaculate Mary ~ 1/15 – 1/28

Teresa Garcia – St. Joseph ~ 1/15 – 1/28

Virginia Hernandez - St. Joseph ~ 1/15 – 1/28 (Sonia Segoviano's Grandmother)

**NEW PARISHIONERS:** Call the office to register between 9 AM and 5 PM, Monday-Friday @ 541-923-3390.

**BAPTISMS:** Parents of children to be baptized must be registered members of our parish. A Baptism preparation class is mandatory for both parents and godparents. For more information call the parish office at 541-923-3390. Baptismal paperwork must be completed and turned in at least 2 weeks prior to the date of Baptism. To schedule a Baptismal Class in English or Spanish, please call the office 541.923.3390. Baptisms in English are scheduled the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the month @ Noon or by appointment. Baptisms in Spanish are scheduled the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of the month.

**QUINCEAÑERAS:** Should make an appointment with Fr. Todd, six months before the proposed date. Preparation class is mandatory.

**MARRIAGES:** Couples planning to marry in this parish should call the office to make an appointment with the Pastor, Fr. Todd Unger, at least six months before the proposed date. Marriage Preparation course is mandatory.

**CANDLE INTENTION OPPORTUNITIES:** Parishioners may request that candles be lit in front of the Sacred Heart, Immaculate Mary and St. Joseph statues. Call the office for more details.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE REPOSE OF THE SOULS:** For those who have lost their lives in the Russian/Ukrainian war; for the at risk unborn; and Craig Unger whose funeral Mass will be on Saturday, January 28, at 11:00 am, preceded by a rosary at 10:30am.

**ASH WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2023:** Masses with distribution of ashes at 8:00am, 10:00am, 12:10am and 6:00pm (bilingual). Confessions 4:00-5:45pm.

**Parish Pastoral Council** meets 2nd Wednesdays at 6:45pm (September-May)– Parish Center - Conference Room. (Parish Council Members: Fr. Todd Unger, Angie Ornelas, Faviola Soto, Anne Maloney, John Turlak, Patti Hanken, and Patricia Schulte). **Next Meeting is February 8.**

**Finance Council** meets last Tuesday of the month at 7:00pm, Parish Office Conference Room

**Knights of Columbus** will meet on **Monday, February 13**, 7:00 pm in the Knights Room. **Grand Knight:** John Turlak

**Altar Society** will meet **Monday, February 13**, in the Altar Society Room at 1:00PM. **President:** Patti Hanken

**St. Thomas Academy – SAC;** 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday at 6pm. **Principal:** Patricia Schulte

**MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK**  
**JANUARY 14 – 22, 2023**

**JANUARY 14, SATURDAY**  
5:00PM+LOIS KOCINA (JOHN & LYNETTE HEDIN)

**JANUARY 15, SUNDAY**  
8:00AM ALL PARISHIONERS  
10:00AM+DC BORN (THE BORN FAMILY)  
NOON+ELENA & GUADALUPE NAVA (ELENA RUIZ)

**JANUARY 16, MONDAY**  
8:00AM SVDP VOLUNTEERS  
8:00AM HAPPY BDAY INEZ BACA (RAMON & LUISA GARCIA)

**JANUARY 17, TUESDAY**  
8:00AM DAN & MARY NEAL (JIM & KATHY NEAL)  
8:00AM+MR. VIDAL (ARLENE FARRELL)

**JANUARY 18, WEDNESDAY**  
8:00AM+THE JOHN & JACKI MERCK FAMILY  
10:00AM TOM WATERS (NANCY WATERS)  
6:00PM+MARIA IDOETA (DOUG & ANNE THOMPSON)

**JANUARY 19, THURSDAY**  
8:00AM+JUDY BOTHUM (PEGGY BOTHUM)  
8:00AM+RAY BRAUN (PHYLLIS STURZA)

**JANUARY 20, FRIDAY**  
8:00AM+EMMA JANE KUMA (3<sup>RD</sup> DEGREE KNIGHTS)  
8:00AM+KENTON LEWIS (CHARLOTTE MELLUZZO)

**JANUARY 21, SATURDAY**  
5:00PM+PEGGY DIXON (LYNETTE & JOHN HEDIN)

**JANUARY 22, SUNDAY**  
8:00AM RON JENSEN (RYAN & CINDY SALE)  
10:00AM+BILL SMITH (DON & CAROL MITCHELL)  
NOON ALL PARISHIONERS

**MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK**  
**JANUARY 21 – 22, 2023**

**JANUARY 21, SATURDAY**  
5:00PM+PEGGY DIXON (LYNETTE & JOHN HEDIN)

**JANUARY 22, SUNDAY**  
8:00AM RON JENSEN (RYAN & CINDY SALE)  
10:00AM+BILL SMITH (DON & CAROL MITCHELL)  
NOON ALL PARISHIONERS

**JANUARY 23, MONDAY**  
8:00AM HAPPY BDAY TIM KRUGH (ALTAR SOCIETY)  
8:00AM JOAN JOHNSON (3<sup>RD</sup> DEGREE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS)

**JANUARY 24, TUESDAY**  
8:00AM+EMMA JANE KUMA (JIM & CHRIS MANLEY)  
8:00AM+GEORGE GORCIAK (JIM & CHRIS MANLEY)

**JANUARY 25, WEDNESDAY**  
8:00AM+ROSALIE McCOY – Diane McCoy's Mother (ALTAR SOC)  
10:00AM+CRAIG UNGER (TIM & LORETTA WILLIAMS FAMILY)  
6:00PM+MARIA BEATRIS JIMENEZ (JOEL & ADELA JAURRIETA)

**JANUARY 26, THURSDAY**  
8:00AM+ROY AUSTIN (PEGGY BOTHUM)  
8:00AM THANK YOU, ST THOMAS, FOR ALL YOUR THOUGHTS & PRAYERS (TIM KRUGH)

**JANUARY 27, FRIDAY**  
8:00AM+RITA BORN (ALTAR SOCIETY)  
8:00AM+LEWIS SCHINDLER (ALTAR SOCIETY)

**JANUARY 28, SATURDAY**  
11:00AM+CRAIG UNGER FUNERAL  
5:00PM+MARCIA DEMERS (LEO DEMERS)

**JANUARY 29, SUNDAY**  
8:00AM+BETTY HASENOEHL (RON & DONNA JENSEN)  
10:00AM+ANN HAVELOCK (RAY HAVELOCK)  
NOON ALL PARISHIONERS

Volunteers are always needed and appreciated at St. Vincent de Paul.

You can volunteer in the Thrift Store, Food Pantry, or Giving Closet.

Call or email today for a volunteer application or more information as to days, times, and opportunities available



651 SW Veterans  
PO Box 1477  
Redmond, OR 97756  
541-923-5264  
[svssredmond@gmail.com](mailto:svssredmond@gmail.com)



Los voluntarios siempre son necesarios y apreciados en St. Vincent de Paul.

Puede ser voluntario en Thrift Store, Food Pantry o Giving Closet.

Llame o envíe un correo electrónico hoy para obtener una solicitud de voluntariado o más información sobre los días, horarios y oportunidades disponibles.

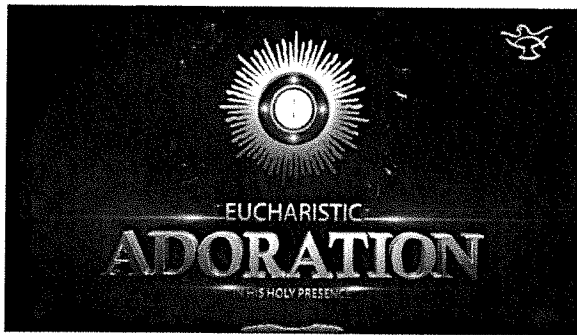


**DIOCESE OF BAKER PROTECTION OF CHILDREN AND VULNERABLE ADULTS**



Throughout the Gospel, Christ calls upon His followers to care for the most vulnerable among us. Child Abuse Prevention month reminds us to be instruments of justice, working for the common good of all, which includes the protection of children. Report all allegations or incidents of sexual abuse by anyone against a minor immediately to the civil authorities to 1-855-503-SAFE (7233) Keep Oregon's Children Safe. After reporting abuse involving a minor to civil authorities please contact: Leah Bickett, Diocese of Baker, Safe Environment Coordinator, Email: [leah@dioceseofbaker.org](mailto:leah@dioceseofbaker.org), Phone 541-388-4004. Reporting Misconduct (sexual or otherwise) involving clergy to adults: Very Rev. Saji Kumbungal Thomas, Vicar General, Email: [vg@dioceseofbaker.org](mailto:vg@dioceseofbaker.org), Phone: 541-962-5574. Reporting allegations against a priest, deacon or seminarian, please contact: Angelina Montoya, MD, Victim's Assistance Coordinator, Phone: 541-678-5652. Reporting Sexual Misconduct involving a Bishop please contact: Catholic Bishop Abuse Reporting Service (CBARS), Phone: 800-276-1562.

Report child abuse  
1-855-503-SAFE (7233)  
Keep Oregon's children safe



**TO RENEW EUCHARISTIC AMAZEMENT:** The first Diocese of Baker *Diocesan Chronicle* of 2023 is focused in large part on a renewal of Eucharistic Amazement, a nationwide movement to re-enkindle Catholic fervor and understanding of The Bread of Life.

To kick off the diocesan Eucharistic Revival, about 50 faithful from our parish, St. Thomas Catholic Church of Redmond, gathered in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament for a Holy Hour with Our Lord at 5:30pm Sunday, January 8. Nick Wavers lead us in the Benediction music.

On the first weekend of each month, Very Reverend Todd Unger and Reverend Alexandar Poulouse plan on Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament after each weekend Mass.

For more information, including an informative video, go to [DioceseOfBaker.org/Eucharistic-Revival](https://www.dioceseofbaker.org/Eucharistic-Revival) and/or <https://www.eucharisticrevival.org/>. Nationwide, this is a 3-year endeavor.

The National Eucharistic Revival website envisions that Catholics may wish to (1) Become a Prayer Partner; or (2) Share a Testimony; or (3) Become a Eucharistic Missionary. Using the relevant links provided, you may subscribe to be a prayer partner, share testimony or learn more about being a Eucharistic Missionary.

Quoted in pertinent part from the website:

"What are Eucharistic Missionaries?

**EUCHARISTIC MISSIONARIES ARE INDIVIDUALS WHO ANSWER A PERSONAL CALL FROM THE HOLY SPIRIT TO BE AN INSTRUMENT OF REVIVAL. THEY DO THIS IN THREE KEY WAYS:**

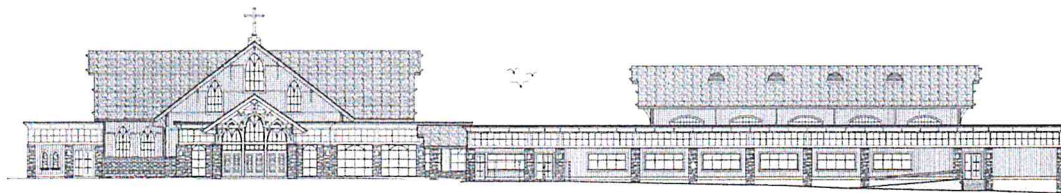
- They offer sincere, prevailing prayer to God asking him to accomplish the sovereign work of revival—for it is his work to do!
- They model the authentic desire to experience a deep renewal of their personal relationship with Jesus Christ and commit to ongoing formation and growth.
- They become the hands and feet of Jesus to bring his Good News to the mission field of their neighborhood and parish."

**"THE ROLE OF THE EUCHARISTIC MISSIONARIES WILL EVOLVE THROUGHOUT THE REVIVAL—AS WILL THE RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO THEM.**

- During the Year of Diocesan Revival (now - June 2023), they will commit to increased prayer, fasting, formation, and evangelization.
- In the Year of Parish Revival (July 2023 - June 2024), you will stretch your boundaries and deepen these commitments—for example, by bringing Holy Communion to the homebound.
- And in the Year of Mission (July 2024 - June 2025), you will be sent forth in a special way to accompany those in need or at the margins with the good news of Jesus' Real Presence!"

You are invited to sign up and subscribe to your new missionary life.

The True Presence of Jesus Christ among us, the Holy Eucharist, draws our spiritual attention. Let us adore Him and seek His divine guidance.



January 15, 2023

Dear Parishioners,

On the weekend of January 21-22, the Diocese will be conducting the fifth annual Cathedral Conservation Collection. St. Francis de Sales Cathedral, located in Baker City is the “Church of the Diocese.” Construction took three years from 1905-08. It is only in a Cathedral where one can find the “cathedra,” the Chair of the Bishop.

St. Francis de Sales Cathedral belongs to every Catholic in the Diocese. For years, the small Cathedral parish has borne the burden of maintaining this large and historic building. Three years ago, the Presbyteral Council of the Diocese, in consultation with Bishop Cary, decided to bring relief to the Cathedral parish by conducting an annual Cathedral Conservation Collection.

Since its inception in 2019, this collection has assisted the Cathedral in these projects:

- full bathroom replacement
- new boiler and heating controls
- replacement of broken and missing granite blocks
- repair and repainting of exterior trim and doors

What a difference these repairs made! This grand old Cathedral is beginning to shine again, thanks to you.

The next major project for the cathedral will be the replacement of the front steps of the cathedral and the sidewalks. If you look at any photo of the cathedral you in the diocesan Chronicle can see that this is going to be a structural challenge. Fr. Suresh Telegani, Cathedral Rector, has already consulted an architect. It was quickly determined that structural engineers need to be involved in the process as the front of the cathedral is supported by the steps needing to be replaced. Although actual construction estimates have not yet been finalized, initial projections for the cost could be in excess of \$1,000,000. Your help is still needed.

There are yellow envelopes available in the pews. I ask that you prayerfully consider a donation to this necessary collection. **Please make your checks payable to St. Thomas Catholic Church**, and bring them to Mass on the weekend of January 27-28. You may also drop them by the office, or mail them to us. We will then write one check to the Diocese for the amount collected.

You have proven your generosity time after time, and I thank you. Let us continue our commitment to our beloved Cathedral by keeping it in the best condition we can for future generations of Catholics. God Bless you, and I thank you for your generosity.

In Christ,

Fr Todd Ungar

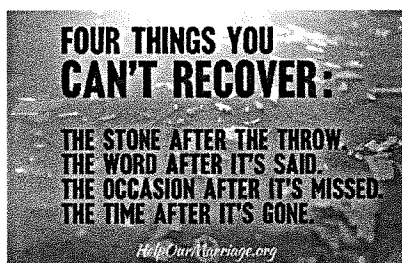
# OREGON RETRouvaille

A LIFELINE FOR MARRIED COUPLES

## **MARRIAGE SAVING** – the Weekend Phase

During the weekend phase of Retrouvaille, a series of presentations are given by a team of three couples and a priest. The team presents a technique of communication that enables you to take a good look at most areas of your relationship. After each presentation you have time in the privacy of your room to discuss the previous presentation. Retrouvaille is for any couple who would like to rediscover their marriage and improve communication.

Visit [www.helpourmarriage.org](http://www.helpourmarriage.org) for program information and emotional testimonials. For confidential information or to register for the January 20-22, 2023, weekend at Our Lady of Peace Retreat Center in Beaverton, Oregon, call (503) 225-9191.



**WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER:** "I am with you always, until the end of the age." Is God in your marriage? To apply for **YOUR WWME Experience** or search other dates go to [rediscoverthespark.org](http://rediscoverthespark.org). For information about WWME call 503-704-0836 or by email at [reservations@rediscoverthespark.org](mailto:reservations@rediscoverthespark.org)



**ST. THOMAS LENDING LIBRARY:** Along with participating in the sacraments and DAILY prayer, practicing regular **SPIRITUAL READING** is a VERY important way of developing a saintly Catholic life. Reading about the lives and writings of the saints can greatly soften our hearts. It is often in our spiritual reading that we find God speaking to us.

**WHERE DO WE FIND THESE WONDERFUL SPIRITUAL READING MATERIALS?** The bookshelves in the church hallway, (across from the flower room), are stocked full of tremendous holy books. Please come and take a look. Feel free to **TAKE ANY BOOK HOME** and keep it as long as you want....you can bring it back or pass it on to someone else. Don't miss this opportunity to rub elbows with the Saints. Don't miss this opportunity to learn from great theologians. Don't miss this opportunity to let your children and grandchildren see you trying to get closer to the Lord as you share with them some of the great things you are reading. (Submitted by Marti Meyer)

## Read and Understand the Bible with *The Bible in a Year* Podcast with Fr. Mike Schmitz!

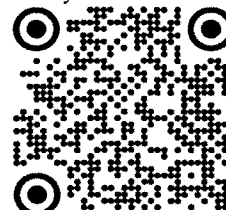
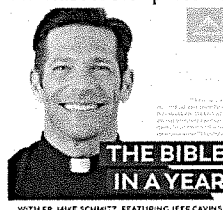
"As cradle Catholics, we hear Scripture at Mass and occasionally in self study but never like this. The Bible in a Year brings it all together." —Ignacio G.

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[www.ascensionpress.com/bibleinayear](http://www.ascensionpress.com/bibleinayear)



## Understand Your Catholic Faith with *The Catechism in a Year* Podcast with Fr. Mike Schmitz!

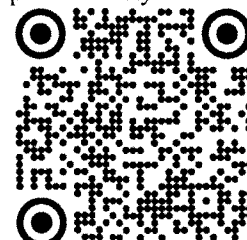
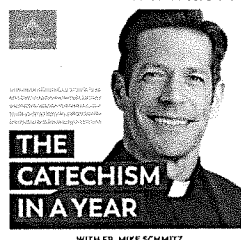
By listening to this podcast, Catholics will:

- Read the entire Catechism of the Catholic Church in 365 days
- Understand the essentials of the Catholic Faith and why they matter
- Transform their relationship with the Church that Christ founded

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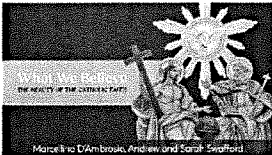
**JANUARY FLOWERS:** Carol Mitchell



**ALTAR SOCIETY:** The next monthly meeting is Monday, February 13, at 1:00 pm in the Altar Society Room.



**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS:** Meet on Monday, February 13, at 7:00 pm in their meeting room located in the parish hall building.



**WINTER BIBLE STUDY:** Maybe you've been Catholic your entire life. Maybe you're just beginning to explore the Catholic Faith. Wherever you may be in your journey, you will be profoundly moved by the beauty and the richness of the Catholic Church.

Join us for *What We Believe: The Beauty of the Catholic Faith* (this is a 10-week study). The new Bible Study will begin Wednesday mornings 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM in the St Thomas Fireside room (church building) on January 18<sup>th</sup> or Thursday evenings at 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM beginning January 19<sup>th</sup>. To register for one of these days and times please call or text Charlotte Curtis at 541-279-9978, if I do not answer when you call please leave a message (name and phone number) I will call you back, you can also email me at [caalec@outlook.com](mailto:caalec@outlook.com) please include your phone number in your email.



**BIBLE STUDIES:** St Thomas has many **LIFE CHANGING** bible studies in the Fireside Room Library in the corner of the Church. There is a file box with an easy self-checkout system with directions next to it. Enjoy! "Ignorance of Scripture is ignorance of Christ." Saint Jerome



**REGISTER AT FORMED.ORG:** Click on **St. Thomas, Redmond**. This summer sign up to receive daily emails at [daily.formed.org](http://daily.formed.org). Access studies and movies galore.



**WANT TO TRY ONLINE GIVING?** Go to the home page at [www.stthomasredmond.com](http://www.stthomasredmond.com) and click on the brown box labelled "Giving Portal." (It is located right after the Mass times.) Great resource!

**WHISKEY GIRLS COFFEE CO. IS OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK AT 5:30 AM.** They are located at 722 NW 6<sup>th</sup> St, Redmond (By the Polar Bear Gas Station)



## What is a Tribunal?



The Office of Canonical Affairs and Matrimonial Tribunal is one Office of the Chancery of the Diocese of Baker. Its staff members are appointed by Bishop Cary and have received special training to represent him and the Church in judicial proceedings for marriage cases and matters of Canon law. Most of its work involves assisting divorced people who are interested in proving the nullity of a prior marriage bond, allowing them to remarry in the Church. More information about how this ministry serves members of the diocese can be found on our website, [www.dioceseofbaker.org](http://www.dioceseofbaker.org), under the heading Tribunal Office.



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joe.lochner.h5mi@statefarm.com



## Autumn Funerals

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Redmond Office

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**Gift Shop Open** The Gift Shop is once again open before and after the Saturday Vigil Mass and all Sunday Masses. If you prefer to make an appointment, call Laurel (English) at 541-788-9702 and leave a message. For Angelica (Spanish), call 541-480-8104..

## Changes or Additions to Parish Records

- ( ) I am a new parishioner and would like to register
- ( ) I've moved ~ My new address, phone and email are shown below
- ( ) I'm Moving. Please remove me from St. Thomas Parish
- ( ) Please contact me regarding envelopes, online giving or parish directory

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_



**Annette Vardanega**  
Financial Advisor

413 NW Larch Ave. Ste. 203  
Redmond, OR 97756  
Bus. 541-548-1300 Fax 866-229-7019  
annette.vardanega@edwardjones.com  
www.edwardjones.com/annette-varanega

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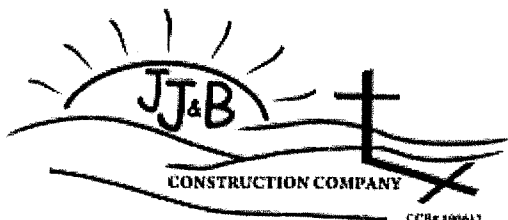
(541) 549-5900

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Sisters, OR 97759

jobs@fivepinelodge.com

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Joshua 1:9

Have I not commanded you? Be strong and Courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you.

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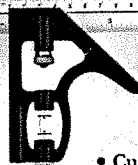
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**Jessica Torres-Baltazar**

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# Growing in FAITH™

Discovering hope and joy in the Catholic faith.

January 2023

St. Thomas Church  
Rev. Todd Unger, Pastor

## One Minute Meditations

### A kinder, gentler you

Kindness is contagious. A recent study found that witnessing an act of kindness produces good feelings and inspires imitation. In the new year, make efforts to be kinder – more friendly, generous, and considerate – and inspire others to do the same.

### Choose not to be offended

In the news or on social media, it can appear that there is more polarization around issues now than in the past. Each side wants to persuade the other. Being right is no compensation for broken friendships, however. If there is someone in your life who deliberately pursues you to argue, don't take the bait. Rather than let arguments create a rift, look the other way when feeling slighted. Being kind is more rewarding than being right.

*"I have told you this that you might have peace in me. In the world you will have trouble, but take courage, I have conquered the world"* (John 16:33).



## Fall deeper in love with Christ in the New Year

At the center of all we do as Catholics must be a close and personal relationship with Jesus. He offers to each of us a deep, intimate, "I love you forever" kind of relationship. Make time to fall deeper in love with Christ:

**T-Talk:** Prayer is an amazing privilege. Through it, we have an open invitation: *"Call to me, and I will answer you"* (Jeremiah 33:3). We have a promise that He hears us: *"When you call me, and come and pray to me, I will listen to you"* (Jeremiah 29:12). The God of the universe wants to hear from you.

**I-Intimacy:** To love Christ, we must know Him. In Scripture, God tells us

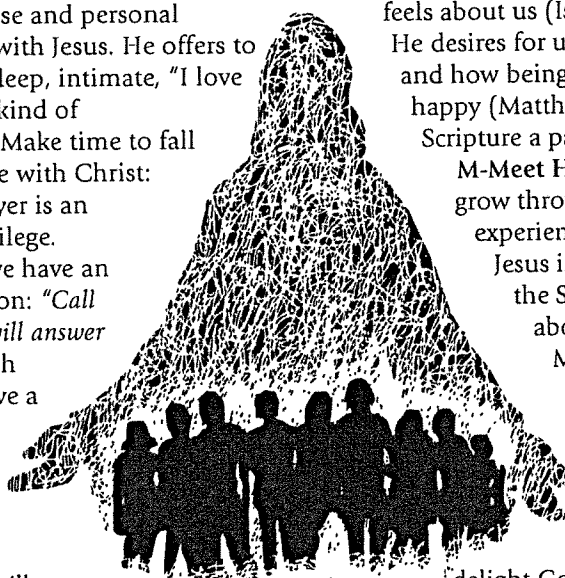
who He is (Exodus 34:6), how He feels about us (Isaiah 43:4), what He desires for us (Luke 12:32), and how being His will make us happy (Matthew 5-7). Make Scripture a part of every day.

**M-Meet Him:** Relationships grow through shared experiences. We meet Jesus in prayer, Scripture, the Sacraments, and above all, during the Mass.

**E-Everything for love:** St. Thérèse of Lisieux discovered

that she could

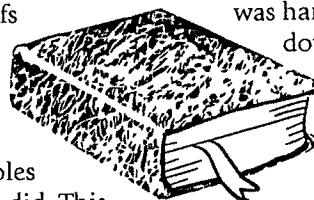
"delight God by simply picking up a pin out of love. He wants to hear us, His beloveds, say, 'I love you, too,'" in words and actions. Essential to falling in love with God is making time for Him.



## Why Do Catholics Do That?

## Why do Catholics believe things that aren't in the Bible?

Catholics recognize the Bible as the inspired, inerrant Word of God, and we reject beliefs that contradict Scripture. Long before the Gospels were written down, the Apostles passed on to their disciples all that Jesus taught and did. This



is what we call, "Tradition," or what was "handed on." Not everything that was handed on could be written down. It was impossible to include everything Jesus did (John 21:25). Catholic beliefs don't depart from Scripture, but delve deeper into it.

# Make one change for God this year

When making New Year's resolutions this year, consider one change that will bring you closer to God. Here are some ideas other Catholics have used to strengthen prayer, serve the poor, and evangelize our faith ...

Laura felt her prayer life growing stale, so when her parish asked for adorers for the perpetual adoration chapel, she jumped at the chance. Now, Mondays at midnight, Laura can be found in the presence of the Eucharist. She



said, "I really look forward to my peaceful hour each week. It's just me and Him."

Peter's law practice is incredibly busy, but he takes an afternoon off every month to work at the local soup kitchen serving hot meals to the homeless and working poor. When asked why, he said, "Jesus said, 'When I was hungry, you gave me to eat.'"

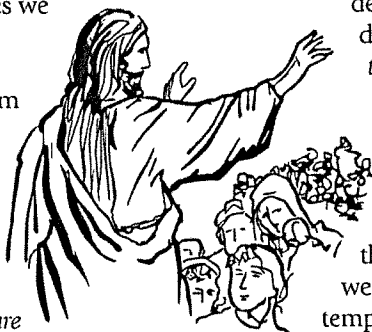
JoAnn's children are grown, yet she teaches a religious education class at her parish. "What better way to spread our faith than to children? That's where I can do the most good," she said.

## from Scripture

### Matthew 5:1-12a, Jesus' blueprint for holiness

This passage contains the Sermon on the Mount during which Jesus detailed the Beatitudes – the attitudes we need to be truly holy, and therefore happy. In fact, "beatitude" is translated from the Greek word for happiness. Jesus was saying, "Happy are you!" or "Congratulations!" if you live by these attitudes.

When Jesus said, "blessed are the poor in spirit ... blessed are they who mourn ... the persecuted" He promised that when we turn to God in times of trial, we will be comforted and cared for. When He said, "Blessed are the pure in heart ... those who hunger and thirst



for righteousness," He was showing us that a holy heart will receive what it desires. When He described "the meek ... the merciful ... the peacemakers," He gave us a blueprint for how to act.

We can measure our behavior against these standards. When we are faithful to God in tempting moments, and translate holy inner attitudes into outward actions, we'll know we're on the right path to holiness. When we live by the Beatitudes, we'll be truly happy.

## Q & A What qualities can I pursue to make me a better follower of Jesus?

Actually, when you were baptized, made your First Communion, or got Confirmed, the Holy Spirit conferred gifts to help you grow in strength and holiness. Recognizing these gifts and nurturing them will certainly make you a better Christian.

**Wisdom:** This gift helps us stay focused on God's will and His plan for us.

**Understanding:** Lets us grasp truths. It means seeing with the heart and the mind.

**Counsel:** Also called "right judgment," counsel enables us to weigh alternatives to make the right choice.

**Fortitude:** The ability to remain firm against pressure. (Also called courage.)

**Knowledge:** A person with knowledge sees more than one dimension of an issue to determine the right path.

**Piety:** Helps us think of ourselves as children of God and be eager to serve Him.

**Fear of the Lord:** The wonder and awe God inspires encourages us to respect Him and all his creations.

The more you use these gifts, the more you will grow in faith and holiness. Then you will certainly become a better Christian.

## Feasts & Celebrations

**January 2 – St. Gregory Nazianzen (389).** Known as "The Theologian" for his faithfulness and eloquence, St. Gregory was unwillingly made Bishop of Sasima. He worked to clarify the Church's teachings about the Holy Trinity.

**January 16 – St. Berard and Companions (1220).** St. Francis of Assisi sent St. Berard and his companions to evangelize in the Muslim territories. After being arrested in Morocco, they were martyred after refusing to stop preaching and renounce their Faith.

**January 23 – St. Marianne Cope**

(1918). St. Marianne began religious life as an educator in New York schools, and later became a nurse. In 1883, she helped St. Damien de Veuster serve the leper colonies of Hawaii, continuing his work after his death.

**January 25 – Conversion of St. Paul (1st Century).** Formally called "Saul", he persecuted the Christians until Jesus appeared to him on the road to Damascus, saying, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting" (Acts 9:5). After that, Saul became Paul and traveled around the known world, preaching the Faith.



## Our Mission

To provide practical ideas that promote faithful Catholic living.

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(Unless noted Bible quotes and references are from the Revised Standard Version and the New American Bible)

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## **Socks, Gloves, & Hat Drive**

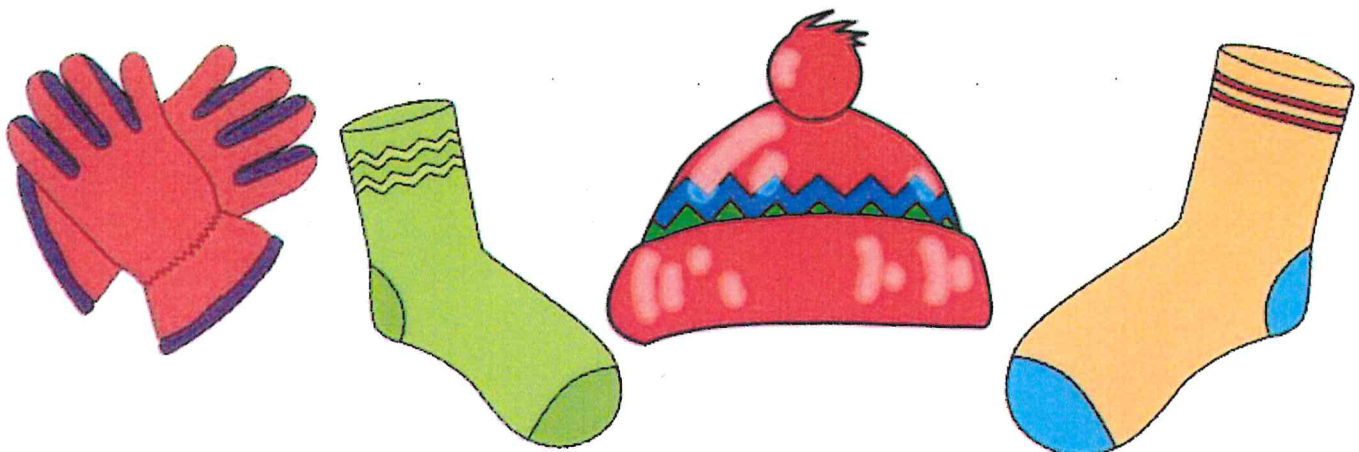
- New Items
- Both Children and adult sizes.
- Items offered to needy neighbors in Redmond.

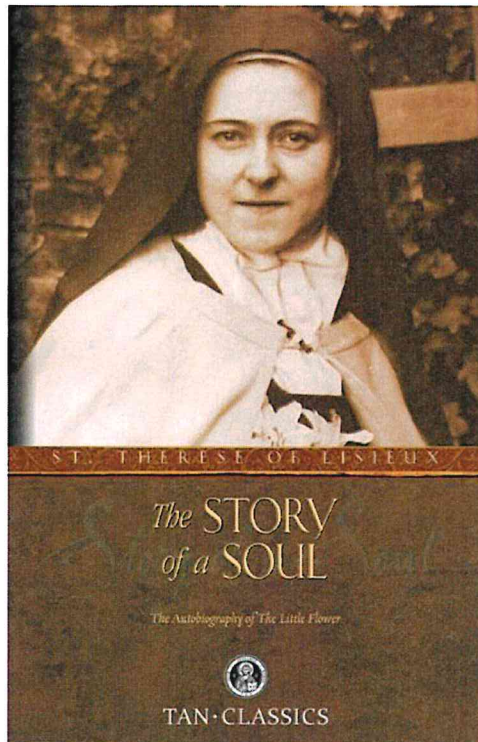
**Please drop off donations at**

**M-F St. Thomas Parish Office 9-5pm**

**Weekends SVdP boxes in side vestibule after all Masses**

**January 1—February 1**





## St. Therese of Lisieux-The Story of a Soul

The beautiful style of St. Therese's writing will capture your heart, but it will be the power and efficacy of her lessons that will keep you returning day after day.

Only written under holy obedience by the command of her superior, St. Therese's autobiography conveys the secrets of her great holiness, which she achieved through her simple and ordinary life. It teaches her "Little Way of Spiritual Childhood," which she called her "elevator to Heaven." An important lesson for all Catholics, her "little way of love and confidence" is drawn directly from Scripture and has been approved by Pope Pius XI as a way to holiness for all.

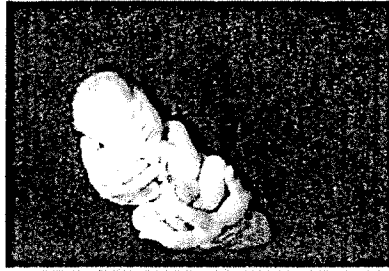
Although she died at the age of 24, St. Therese was and is known for her great wisdom, and this magnum opus demonstrates the young Carmelite's holiness and dependence on God.

St. Therese's autobiography has become a classic of Catholic literature, and it has been translated into numerous languages. The Story of a Soul continues to grow in popularity and millions of copies are distributed worldwide.

Available online and through bookstores for approximately \$15.00 or <https://www.icspublications.org/> \$8.37 with promo code FLOWER150 plus shipping (13.95 total)

Discussion Date: March 21, 2023 6:30-8:00PM, Brides Room





## Central Oregon Right to Life

### **Central Oregon Right to Life**

Welcomes you to participate in our

### **March for Life**

Saturday, January 21, 2023

from 1:00 –2:00 pm

in front of Planned Parenthood

Signs will be provided

(Signs can be made with positive messages,  
no pictures of aborted babies, please)

All participants please stay on sidewalk and do  
not block right of way to other businesses.

For more information please contact

[InfoAboutCORTL@Gmail.com](mailto:InfoAboutCORTL@Gmail.com) or

Phone: (541) 413-5298