

St. Therese Catholic School

September 2023

STS Newsletter

Go Crusaders!



Mission Statement: To provide Faith, Service and Learning opportunities for students, families and communities in a Christ-like environment.

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UNIFORMS

Here are some links for uniforms. While in the past we have used Dennis uniforms, we have not contracted with them in the past two years. You may buy the polos or sweatshirts from the school by clicking on this link:

<https://www.stthereseschoolabq.org/uniforms> link for polos/sweatshirts

If you are needing the **plaid jumper, you can order from Dennis here:**

Dennis uniform basics (Prek-4th grade) [girls jumper](#)

If you need a plaid skirt, we have some sizes for new skirts in the office. 5th-8th grade, if you need a particular size, we will order these in bulk and you can purchase from us.

Dennis Uniform also has a basic store. This means you can buy their plain stock, such as the blue slacks, white blouse/shirt, but nothing with a logo. [Dennis uniform basics girls](#) and [Dennis uniform basics boys](#) Remember boys wear navy slacks, girls may wear navy skorts or the plaid jumper/skirt. Girls need a navy crisscross tie and boys a regular navy tie for Mass.

You can also check out the closet for gently used uniforms, which are all free of charge. If you have any questions on uniforms, just drop me an email m.giglio@stschool.org

SEPTEMBER LITURGY

| | |
|-----------|--|
| 2 | MASS OF OUR LADY |
| 8 | NATIVITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY |
| 9 | ST. PETER CLAVER |
| 12 | HOLY NAME OF MARY |
| 13 | ST. JHN CHRYSOSTOM |
| 14 | EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS |
| 15 | OUR LADY OF SORROWS |
| 16 | STS. CORNILUS AND CYPRIAN |
| 19 | ST. JANUARIUS |
| 20 | ST. ANDREW KIM TAI-GON, PAUL CHONG & COMPANIONS |
| 21 | ST. MATTHEW, APOSTLE AND EVANGELIST |
| 23 | ST. PIUS OF PIETRELCINA (PADRE PIO) |
| 26 | STS. COSMAS AND DAMIAN |
| 27 | ST. VINCENT DE PAUL |
| 28 | ST. WENCESLAUS, ST. LAWRENCE RUIZ & COMPANIONS |
| 29 | ST. MICHAEL, GABRIEL, RAPHAEL, ARCHANGELS |
| 30 | ST. JEROME |

SCHOOL MASS SCHEDULE – SEPTEMBER



| | | |
|----------|--------------|-----------------------------|
| Thursday | September 7 | 5 th grade hosts |
| Tuesday | September 14 | 4 th grade hosts |
| Thursday | September 21 | 3 rd grade hosts |
| Thursday | September 28 | 2 nd grade hosts |

Adoration will follow most Masses on Thursday.

Prayers...



Please keep in your prayers Ms. Valerie Chacon, her mom and her family, She is our 4th grade teacher. Her mom is going through some difficult medical issues and Valerie is her caregiver.

September Events

- September 4: Labor day....no school
- September 11: Remembrance of the attacks on country
- September 15: St. Therese School 76th Birthday
- September 18: SPX visit for 8th graders and their family
- September 28: Picture day: individual student pictures
- September 29: Church fiesta kicks off with Mass at 6pm
- September 30: Church fiesta
- October 1: Church fiesta with school performance following the school Mass: approx. 11:30 am





Teachers of the Year

Each year, the Catholic Foundation, asks for nominations for teachers who did an outstanding job. I am so proud to say that St. Therese Catholic School was blessed with **TWO** teachers of the year. These teachers were nominated by parents and colleagues. They will be honored on September 29 at a special luncheon for the Catholic Foundation!

Congratulations to Ms. Katie-Jane Widner PreK teacher and to Mrs. Carolyn Love Kindergarten teacher!



Ms. Widner
Mrs. Love

Labor Day

The origins of Labor Day can be traced back to the late 19th century when the labor movement in the United States started gaining momentum.

The labor movement was a social and political movement that aimed to advocate for better working conditions, fair wages, and the rights of workers.

Labor Day holds significant meaning as it symbolizes the hard work and dedication of American workers. It serves as a reminder of the labor movement's accomplishments and the ongoing struggle for workers' rights.

Patriot day

Twenty years ago, the United States endured one of the most unconscionable tragedies in our country's history. The cowardly terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center, the Pentagon, and onboard United Flight 93 cut short the lives of 2,977 innocent people. These attacks tore a hole in the heart of our Nation, and the pain of this tragedy still remains. Each year on this somber date, we remember the horror and bravery shown that day, just as we remember how we came together, united in grief and in purpose. Each year, we renew our solemn vow to never forget what happened on September 11, 2001, or those who lost their lives.

On Patriot Day and National Day of Service and Remembrance, we honor every life that was taken too soon. We honor the first responders — firefighters, law enforcement officers, emergency workers, and service members — who answered the call of duty, and the brave civilians who rushed into action to save lives that day. Their courage embodies the American spirit and resilience, and their heroism continues to inspire new generations of Americans.
(President J. Biden, 2021)

POW/MIA day

The United States' National POW/MIA Recognition Day is observed across the nation on the third Friday of September each year. Many Americans take the time to remember those who were prisoners of war (POW) and those who are missing in action (MIA), as well as their families.

Financial Corner



St. Therese school has made improvements since the beginning of the fiscal year. We were able to carpet both 5th grade classroom and the Spanish classroom. The Spanish room also had an abatement this summer.

We have installed new speakers in the elementary classrooms. We are working on improvements to the intercom system. The well that waters the lawn between the Middle School and Long Hall had the pump replaced. As always, we work hard to keep our building in good working order.

Formation for Families

Month of our Lady of Sorrows

The month of September is dedicated to **Our Lady of Sorrows**, whose memorial the Church celebrates on September 15. September falls during the liturgical season known as **Ordinary Time**, which is represented by the liturgical color green.

This symbol of hope is the color of the sprouting seed and arouses in the faithful the hope of reaping the eternal harvest of heaven, especially the hope of a glorious resurrection. It is used in the offices and Masses of Ordinary Time.

DEVOTION TO OUR LADY OF SORROWS

The Seven Promises of Our Sorrowful Mother

There are seven promises attached to the practice of daily praying seven Hail Marys while meditating on Our Lady's Tears and Sorrows. Our Sorrowful Mother revealed these seven promises to St. Bridget of Sweden:

1. "I will grant peace to their families."
2. "They will be enlightened about the divine Mysteries."
3. "I will console them in their pains and I will accompany them in their work."
4. "I will give them as much as they ask for as long as it does not oppose the adorable will of My divine Son or the sanctification of their souls."

5. “I will defend them in their spiritual battles with the infernal enemy and I will protect them at every instant of their lives.”
6. “I will visibly help them at the moment of their death. They will see the face of their Mother.”
7. “I have obtained this grace from My divine Son, that those who propagate this devotion to My tears and sorrows will be taken directly from this earthly life to eternal happiness, since all their sins will be forgiven and My Son will be their eternal consolation and joy.”

History of the Devotion

The Devotion to the Mother of Sorrows dates back to the beginning of the Church. The first example we have is St. John at the foot of the Cross. This devotion was enshrined in Church history by the gospel narrative of St. John – “Now there stood by the Cross of Jesus His Mother... (Jn. 19:25).

Though the devotion has always been part of Catholic piety, it was not until the 13th Century that the devotion of meditating on the sorrows of Our Lady began to flourish much more. In Florence, Italy seven holy men of noble birth left the city seeking solitude on Mont Senario and together formed a community dedicating their lives to prayer and penance. The seven holy men all had a strong devotion to Our Lady.

On Good Friday in 1239, while they were meditating on Our Lord’s Passion and Our Lady’s sufferings, Our Lady appeared to the 7 holy men and revealed to them Her wish for them to form an Order dedicated to practicing and promoting the devotion to Her Sorrows. These men became the founders of the religious Order of the Servants of Mary (or Servites) and are all canonized saints today.



At Our Lady’s request, the seven founders made the object of their Order, meditation on the pains suffered by Our Lady in the Life, Passion and Death of Her Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ, and undertook promoting this devotion of meditating on the Seven Sorrows of Our Lady to all Catholics, which became the foundation of the Rosary of

the Seven Sorrows of the Blessed Virgin Mary. There are two days which The Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows is celebrated, on Friday before the Good Friday, and September 15th.

Because of the Seven Sorrows which pierced Her maternal heart, the Sorrowful Mother is often represented either as standing beneath the Cross, or as holding the lifeless body of Jesus on Her lap, Her heart transfixed by seven swords, as foretold in the prophecy of holy Simeon at the presentation: “And thy own soul a sword shall pierce.” (Luke 2:35).

The Holy Church recalls to our mind only Seven of Our Lady’s Sorrows, but who could form an estimate of their real number! **The sufferings of the Mother of God cannot be comprehended**; they are inconceivable. But although her whole life was, like that of her Divine Son, a continuous series of sufferings and tribulations, the greatest woes and trials came to her during the week of the bitter Passion and Death of Jesus, when the storm of hatred and fury burst forth with all violence against Him.

During Our Saviour’s Passion, every glance at her suffering Son forced the sword deeper into Mary’s soul. Every sound of His voice brought special bitterness to her heart. Every increase of her love for Him, and it increased with every moment of His Passion, augmented her sorrows. The dearer and more precious Our Lord became to Her, the more keenly She felt the heart-rending woe of His cruel and ignominious Passion!

In her spirit as well as in her senses, she felt every blow that was inflicted upon her Divine Son, every insult that was offered to His sacred Person. Yet no complain or escaped her blanched lips. **With heroic fortitude She suppressed her violent grief and, wholly conformed to the Divine Will, generously offered the sacrifice of her Son for the sins of the world.**

“The Martyrs endured their torments in their bodies; Mary suffered Hers in Her soul.”

Saint Alphonsus Liguori

Devotion

The Seven Sorrows Rosary has the beads organized into seven sets of seven medals or large beads. A single medal or bead represents one of The Seven Sorrows. Pray one Our Father on the medal or bead, and seven Hail Marys on the seven beads. The Seven Sorrows Rosary consists of one Our Father and seven Hail Mary for each of The Seven Sorrows.

- **Sign of the Cross and Initial Prayer (Below)**
- **Main Medal – Act of Contrition**

1st Sorrow – The Prophecy of Simeon

“And Simeon blessed them, and said to Mary his mother: Behold this child is set for the fall and for the resurrection of many in Israel, and for a sign which shall be contradicted; And thy own soul a sword shall pierce, that out of many hearts thoughts may be revealed” (Luke 2: 34-35).

Meditation: How great was the shock to Mary's Heart at hearing the sorrowful words, in which holy Simeon told the bitter Passion and death of her sweet Jesus, since in that same moment she realized in her mind all the insults, blows, and torments which the impious men were to offer to the Redeemer of the world. But a still sharper sword pierced her soul. It was the thought of men's ingratitude to her beloved Son. Now consider that because of your sins you are unhappily among the ungrateful.

Our Father and 7 Hail Mary

2nd Sorrow – The Flight into Egypt

“And after they (the wise men) were departed, behold an angel of the Lord appeared in sleep to Joseph, saying: Arise and take the child and His mother and fly into Egypt: and be there until I shall tell thee. For it will come to pass that Herod will seek the child to destroy Him. Who arose and took the child and His mother by night, and retired into Egypt: and He was there until the death of Herod” (Matt. 2: 13-14).

Meditation: Consider the sharp sorrow which Mary felt when, St. Joseph being warned by an angel, she had to flee by night in order to preserve her beloved Child from the slaughter decreed by Herod. What anguish was hers, in leaving Judea, lest she should be overtaken by the soldiers of the cruel king! How great her privations in that long journey! What sufferings she bore in that land of exile, what sorrow amid that people given to idolatry! But consider how often you have renewed that bitter grief of Mary, when your sins have caused her Son to flee from your heart

Our Father and 7 Hail Mary

3rd Sorrow – The Loss of Child Jesus in the Temple

“And having fulfilled the days, when they returned, the Child Jesus remained in Jerusalem; and His parents knew it not. And thinking that he was in the company, they came a day's journey, and sought him among their kinsfolk and acquaintance. And not finding Him, they returned into Jerusalem, seeking Him” (Luke 2: 43-45).

Meditation: How dread was the grief of Mary, when she saw that she had lost her beloved Son! And as if to increase her sorrow, when she sought Him diligently among her kinsfolk and acquaintance, she could hear no tidings of Him. No hindrances stayed her, nor weariness, nor danger; but she forthwith returned to Jerusalem, and for three long days sought Him sorrowing. Great be your confusion, O my soul, who has so often lost your Jesus by your sins, and has given no heed to seek Him at once, a sign that you make very little or no account of the precious treasure of divine love.

Our Father and 7 Hail Mary

4th Sorrow – Mary meets Jesus on the Way to Calvary

“And there followed Him a great multitude of people, and of women, who bewailed and lamented Him” (Luke 23: 27).

Meditation: Come sinners, come and see if you can endure so sad sight. This Mother, so tender and loving, meets her beloved Son, meets Him amid an impious rabble, who drag Him to a cruel death, wounded, torn by stripes, crowned with thorns, streaming with blood, bearing His heavy cross. Ah, consider, my soul, the grief of the blessed Virgin thus beholding her Son! Who would not weep at seeing this Mother's grief? But who has been the cause of such woe? I, it is I, who with my sins have so cruelly wounded the heart of my sorrowing Mother! And yet I am not moved; I am as a stone, when my heart should break because of my ingratitude.

Our Father and 7 Hail Mary

5th Sorrow – Mary stands at the foot of the Cross

“They crucified Him. Now there stood by the cross of Jesus, His Mother. When Jesus therefore had seen His Mother and the disciple standing whom he loved, He saith to His Mother: Woman: behold thy son. After that he saith to the disciple: Behold thy Mother” (John 19: 18, 25-27).

Meditation: Look, devout soul, look to Calvary, whereon are raised two altars of sacrifice, one on the body of Jesus, the other on the heart of Mary. Sad is the sight of that dear Mother drowned in a sea of woe, seeing her beloved Son, part of her very self, cruelly nailed to the shameful tree of the cross. Ah me! how every blow of the hammer, how every stripe which fell on the Savior’s form, fell also on the disconsolate spirit of the Virgin. As she stood at the foot of the cross, pierced by the sword of sorrow, she turned her eyes on Him, until she knew that He lived no longer and had resigned His spirit to His Eternal Father. Then her own soul was like to have left the body and joined itself to that of Jesus.

Our Father and 7 Hail Mary

6th Sorrow – Mary receives the body of Jesus from the Cross

“Joseph of Arimathea, a noble counselor, came and went in boldly to Pilate, and begged the body of Jesus. And Joseph buying fine linen, and taking Him down, wrapped Him up in the fine linen” (Mark 15: 43-46).

Meditation: Consider the most bitter sorrow which rent the soul of Mary, when she saw the dead body of her dear Jesus on her knees, covered with blood, all torn with deep wounds. O mournful Mother, a bundle of myrrh, indeed, is thy Beloved to thee. Who would not pity thee? Whose heart would not be softened, seeing affliction which would move a stone? Behold John not to be comforted, Magdalen and the other Mary in deep affliction, and Nicodemus, who can scarcely bear her sorrow.

Our Father and 7 Hail Mary

7th Sorrow – Jesus is placed in the tomb

“Now there was in the place where He was crucified, a garden; and in the garden a new sepulcher, wherein no man yet had been laid. There, therefore, because of the habits of the Jews, they laid Jesus, because the sepulcher was nigh at hand” (John 19: 41-42).

Meditation: Consider the sighs which burst from Mary’s sad heart when she saw her beloved Jesus laid within the tomb. What grief was hers when she saw the stone lifted to cover that sacred tomb! She gazed a last time on the lifeless body of her Son, and could scarce detach her eyes from those gaping wounds. And when the great stone was rolled to the door of the sepulcher, oh, then indeed her heart seemed torn from her body!

Our Father and 7 Hail Mary

- **Last 3 beads – Three Hail Mary in honor of the Tears of Our Most Sorrowful Mother.**

- **Final Prayer (Below)**

- **3 times “Most Sorrowful Mother, Pray for us”.**
- **Sign of the Cross**

Opening Prayer

O most blessed Virgin, Queen of Martyrs, you stood generously beneath the cross and felt the sword of sorrow pierce your soul. Look now with a mother's understanding and tenderness, as I kneel before you to commemorate your sorrows, and to present my petition to you with childlike confidence. I beg of you, O Mother, to plead for me with your Son, so to touch his Sacred Heart, that I may obtain my request... (pause to make your request)... For to whom shall I turn in my time of need, if not to you, O Mother of Mercy, who having so deeply drunk the chalice of your Son, can surely tell Him of my needs. Amen.

Act of Contrition

O Mother of Sorrows, how ungrateful have I been in the past to my loving God. Now, I repent, humbly asking pardon for the offence done to God in His infinite goodness, and I resolve by the help of His grace to offend Him no more. Obtain for me that I may live and die in the love of my Lord and share eternally in that glory which He has won for me through His death and resurrection. Amen.

Closing Prayer

O God, you willed that the life of the Blessed Virgin be marked by the mystery of suffering. Grant that we journey with Her on the way of faith and unite our sufferings to the passion of Christ so that they become occasions of grace and the promise of future resurrection. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Month of the Harvest

Since man is both a spiritual and physical being, the Church provides for the needs of man in his everyday life. The Church's liturgy and feasts in many areas reflect the four seasons of the year (spring, summer, fall and winter). The months of August, September, October and November are part of the harvest season, and as Christians we recall God's constant protection over his people and give thanksgiving for the year's harvest.

The September Ember Days were particularly focused on the end of the harvest season and thanksgiving to God for the season. Ember Days were three days

(Wednesday, Friday and Saturday) set aside by the Church for prayer, fasting and almsgiving at the beginning of each of the four seasons of the year. The ember days fell after December 13, the feast of St. Lucy (winter), after the First Sunday of Lent (spring), after Pentecost Sunday (summer), and after September 14, the feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross (fall). These weeks were known as the *quattor tempora*, the "four seasons."

Since the late 5th century, the Ember Days were also the preferred dates for ordination of priests. So during these times the Church had a threefold focus: (1) sanctifying each new season by turning to God through prayer, fasting and almsgiving; (2) giving thanks to God for the various harvests of each season; and (3) praying for the newly ordained and for future vocations to the priesthood and religious life.

Since the reorganization of the Roman calendar in 1969 after the Second Vatican Council, Ember Days are still retained in principle, but how and when they are to be observed is at the discretion of each country's Episcopal Conference. There is no longer set Mass readings for the Ember Days in the Ordinary Rite.

Another harvest feast is September 29, the Feast of the Archangels Michael, Gabriel and Raphael. Before the revision of the calendar, this used to be only the feast of St. Michael. In many countries this day was referred to as "Michaelmas" and is celebrated with traditional foods and customs.

By Jennifer Gregory Miller, 2003.

School Birthday-September 15

The school was founded in September 1947 by a group of nuns intent on bringing a Catholic-based education to the North Valley.

Before the actual school was built, a Quonset hut was loaned to the school. Using this, a tent, and a garden hose as a drinking fountain, 150 students began their educational journey at St. Therese. Later that same year, a combination school and church building was built and today,

that same building serves as the office, computer lab, library, and elementary classrooms. Over the years, St. Therese Catholic Scl the Middle Rio Grande Community. Students attend the Parish Mass on Thursday morning and also attend First Friday Eucharistic Adoration. On the first Sunday of each month, the students and their families attend the Parish Mass to demonstrate their support and appreciation to the members of the Parish. The School has grown in size along with the St. Therese Parish. The building that once served as the Parish Hall now serves as the Middle School building.

The great school staff, the Church, and its Pastor remain closely united and work together to better the education of all the students at St. Therese Catholic School

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School Dress Code

Just a reminder that students (male and female) should not have highlights or colored hair, artificial nails, non-prescription contacts or wear make-up. Boy's hair should be cut above the collar and not have any shapes or razor art in their cuts. For both boys and girls, hair/bangs should not cover their eyes. We ask that girls keep hair items to a simple hair tie or STS uniform headband or scrunchie. No big bows or jewelry/beads in their hair. Shoes and other items for your student: please make sure that shoes should be regular sneakers that are white, black or blue; no high tops, no Vans with checks or designs, no light-ups and no wheels on the shoes. Please no boots; heels on student shoes no more than an inch. Please keep socks conservative: white, black, or blue. A small swish is fine, but no graffiti or images on the socks. Please do not have students wear the no show socks. They must be ankle or knee socks for both boys

and girls. Thank you for helping in honoring the dress code for the school! This is referenced in the handbook.



Virtus is an Archdiocesan training for all volunteers that helps adults learn to recognize the warning signs of abuse, and it shows them the appropriate way to respond to suspicious behavior. If you are planning on attending or volunteering in any capacity at the school, even if only driving or being with your own child, please take the time to take “Protecting God's Children” online. The certificate is turned into the front office and is good for five (5) years. This will also cover any volunteering in any of the Archdiocese of Santa Fe communities. Visit www.virtusonline.org and take your class today.

Annual Notifications

Legal Notice

The Archdiocese of Santa Fe and St. Therese Catholic School comply with the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA) by providing access for the review of the Management Plan at this school. The Management Plan is kept in the principal's office and will be updated as various situations develop and inspections are completed. Arrangements may be made with the principal of the school or to the executive director of general services at the Archdiocese of Santa Fe.

Civil Rights

In accordance with federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex (including gender identity and sexual orientation), disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity.

Program information may be made available in languages other than English. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication to obtain program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotope, American Sign Language), should contact the responsible state or local agency that administers the program or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.

To file a program discrimination complaint, a Complainant should complete a Form AD-3027, USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form which can be obtained online at: <https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/USDA-OASCR%20P-Complaint-Form-0508-0002-508-11-28-17Fax2Mail.pdf>, from any USDA office, by calling (866) 632-9992, or by writing a letter addressed to USDA. The letter must contain the complainant's name, address, telephone number, and a written description of the alleged discriminatory action in sufficient detail to inform the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights (ASCR) about the nature and date of an alleged civil rights violation. The completed AD-3027 form or letter must be submitted to USDA by:

1. **mail:**
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; or
2. **fax:**
(833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442; or
3. **email:**
program.intake@usda.gov

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.



You can attach your Smith's Rewards card to St. Therese Parochial School with your Smith's digital account. Visit by clicking or copying/pasting for info how to set up this easy fundraiser:

<https://www.smithsfoodanddrug.com/i/community/smiths-inspiring-donations>



APIAL is our sport program. Registration is currently active until 8/21/23 for several sports: Volleyball, cross-country, flag football, and golf. Please click the link: <https://sites.google.com/view/apialathleticsregister/sts> to register today. No registrations will be accepted after August 21.