

were fine, that she wanted no money, and that she felt very badly for the teacher who was new to the country and had to be so afraid and scared. The relieved teacher was in utter disbelief at such gracious and compassionate forgiveness.

Three months later, a more experienced and cautious teacher was driving to school when a fisherman collided into the side of her car. After the fisherman stammered an apology and offered money, she told him the story of her first accident. She refused to accept any money from him -- to accept it would uproot the goodness she had experienced from the young mother three months before.

Perhaps, the teacher later thought, this fisherman might someday be wronged through no fault of his own and pass on what she was able to give from what she received: the intangible gift of forgiveness.

The "way of the Lord" is made straight through a small Japanese town; a young teacher becomes a "prophet" of the forgiveness and kindness she has experienced. We are called to "testify" to the light we have seen in the compassion and forgiveness of others, to become the means to straighten the roads we travel that have become crooked and dangerous by injustice and greed; we have been entrusted by God to transform our deserts into God's vineyard of mercy and peace.

On this Third Sunday of Advent, let us give thanks for the "prophets" in our lives who reveal God in our midst --- and may we become, in our own selfless giving and grateful joy, reflections of the light of God's peace and compassion for those we love.

WEEKEND MINISTRY ASSIGNMENTS

| | | |
|-------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| 5 pm | <u>Sat, Dec 13</u> | <u>Sat, Dec 20</u> |
| Comm: | - | Jennifer Christian |
| Lector: | - | Joe Speer |
| Usher: | - | Dick Yount |
| Server: | - | Lauren H. |

| | | |
|----------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 7:30 am | <u>Sun, Dec 14</u> | <u>Sun, Dec 21</u> |
| Comm: | Jackie Swabb | Denise Otte |
| Lector: | Jackie Swabb | Don Kuether |
| Usher | Steve Bruns Ray Lyons | August Otte <i>*need volunteer</i> |
| Server: | Danielle S. <i>*need volunteer</i> | Matthew K. Tom K. |

| | | |
|-----------------|--|--|
| 10:30 am | <u>Sun, Dec 14</u> | <u>Sun, Dec 21</u> |
| Comm: | Daniel Knapke Peggy Sweeney Dave Tobias Bev Yount <i>*need volunteer</i> | Mary Bachman Bob Gengler Kathie Gengler Amy Meyer <i>*need volunteer</i> |
| Lector: | Peggy Sweeney | Bob Gengler |
| Usher: | Dave Tobias Kevin Rindler | Duane Bachman Mike Fisher |
| Server: | Kaylee H. Kyle M. | Robert G. Ryan G. |



ST. TERESA

Of The Infant Jesus
CATHOLIC CHURCH
in Covington, Ohio

DECEMBER 14, 2014
THIRD SUNDAY
OF ADVENT

PAROCHIAL ADMIN: Rev. Ron Haft 473-2970

SERVICES: Wed, Thu: 8:30 am
1st & 3rd Sat: 5 pm
Sun: 7:30 am, 10:30 am

BAPTISMS: Contact pastor at 473-2970

WEDDINGS: Contact pastor at least six months in advance of wedding date.

RECONCILIATION:
Tuesday from 5:30 - 6:30 pm
1st & 3rd Saturday from 4:00 - 4:30 pm

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:
Contact: Michelle Kuether 473-3713

YOUTH MINISTRY:
Contact: Alan Capasso 417-2839

R.C.I.A.: Normally done during the school year.
Contact pastor for more information.

PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS:
PRES. Jim Hartzell, Jr. 335-1244
V.P. Steve Bruns 877-0012
SEC. Mandy Morgan 308-5561
Tom Grilliot 778-9523

WEBSITE: www.stteresacovington.org



St. Teresa of the Infant Jesus
(Therese of Lisieux)



ST. TERESA OF THE INFANT JESUS
Established: 1950

6925 W. U.S. ROUTE 36
COVINGTON, OHIO 45318

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

WED 12/17 8:30 AM
Edward Barhorst
Anniversary Remembrance

THU 12/18 8:30 AM
Paul Rank

SAT 12/20 5:00 PM
For the people of the
parish

SUN 12/21 7:30 AM
Evelyn Kuether

10:30 AM
Norbert & Edna Guillozet

SUNDAY COLLECTION

| | |
|------------------|-------------|
| December 7, 2014 | \$ 2,202.80 |
| Building Fund | \$ 55.00 |

PARISH PRAYER CHAIN

Please contact Boots Speer at 473-2872 to activate the prayer chain.

BULLETIN NEWS

Please contact Wendy Vanderhorst at 473-9839 or stteresacovington@yahoo.com with bulletin information.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

The K of C Council 15424 will meet on Monday, January 26th at 7:00 pm. There will not be a meeting in December.

PANCAKE BREAKFAST

In honor of the Feast of the Holy Family on December 28th, the Knights of Columbus will be having a pancake breakfast after the 10:30 Mass.

BC YOUTH COALITION NEWS

Dec. 14 - High School.
Dec. 21 - Christmas Party for 7th-12th Grade.

CD/MP3 OF THE MONTH CLUB

Get the December CD of the Month Club talk delivered right to your home. Be the first to listen to these inspiring CDs! A CD of the Month Club subscription makes a great gift for birthdays, Christmas or to "invite" someone home to the Catholic Church etc. Visit <http://www.lighthousecatholicmedia.org/subscriptions?promoCode=102797> to subscribe today.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

We will have our adult faith formation and RCIA meetings at 7:00 pm in the church hall on the first and third Tuesdays of the month. We are using a well-produced DVD series that has discussion after each segment. Please come join us and learn more about faith in Jesus Christ and His Church.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

Christmas flower memorial donation envelopes are in the back of the church. Please drop them in the collection basket or the church office by December 21st to be included in the Christmas bulletin. Thank you!

CHRISTMAS DECORATING

We will be decorating St. Teresa for Christmas after the 10:30 am Mass on Sunday, December 21st. We will be spending less than two hours and will have pizza, soda, cookies and Christmas music. Please consider helping to spread the holiday cheer by joining us for this festive time! Your help is greatly appreciated.

CCD NEWS

This weekend is our last class before Christmas. There will be no classes on December 21st or 28th. Classes will resume on January 4th. Have a very Blessed and Merry Christmas!

CRECHE DISPLAY

Come experience the beauty of Christmas, depicted in nativity displays from all over the world, at the Transfiguration Center for Spiritual Renewal, 3505 Calumet Road, Ludlow Falls, OH. Hours are from 9:00 am - 4:00 pm on weekdays until January 9th and from 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm on December 20th and December 21st. The display will be closed on December 24th - December 26th and on December 31st - January 2nd. For more information, please call 937-698-7180 or visit www.transfigurationcenter.com to make a reservation.

DIVORCE SUPPORT GROUP

If you are, or someone you know is, hurting from separation or divorce, please join us for our 12-week support group, "The Catholic's DIVORCE SURVIVAL Guide." This landmark DVD series features top Catholic experts to help the divorced find hope and healing. The group meets on Tuesday nights, from 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm, beginning January 13, 2015 and ending March 31, 2015, in the basement of Emmanuel Church, 149 Franklin Street, Dayton. The cost of the program is \$25 per person and includes all materials for the 12 week program. Unfortunately, no child care is available. To register, go to www.catholic.cincinnati.org/event/catholic-divorce-survival-guide. Please call 937-222-0227 with any questions.

From the desk of Father Haft

Greetings in the name of the Lord:

As you read the parish council minutes, you will see that the Archdiocese of Cincinnati is beginning a Capital Campaign of \$130 million dollars. Each parish has been given a specific goal. Our parish goal is \$115 thousand dollars. Over the next few months, you will hear more about it and be given the opportunity to participate. I do need to form a small committee to run the campaign here at our parish. Please prayerfully consider volunteering.

Yours in Christ,
Fr. Haft

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

John was sent from God...to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him.

John 1:6-8, 19-28

CONNECTIONS:

Passing on the right

A young American woman had just arrived in northeastern Japan to teach English in a small school. Within her first 15 minutes of driving in Japan for the first time, she rear-ended a car driven by a pregnant Japanese woman, who had to be taken to the hospital. The American teacher, who had to communicate with police through a translator, was terrified. She returned to her apartment, awake all night, haunted by countless "what ifs."

The next morning, the teacher received a message from the woman. She wanted the teacher to know that she and her baby