

St. Teresa of Avila Church

P.O. Box 418, Harrah, OK 73045

Fr. Alan J. Loth, Pastor

Office: 454-2819

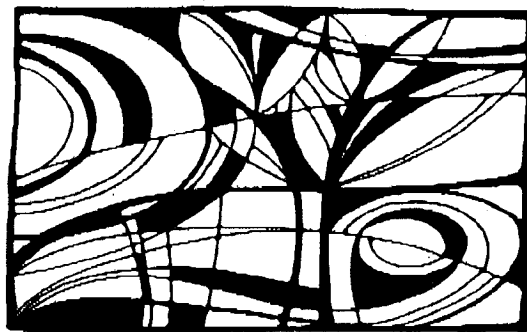
Parish Hall & Religious Ed. Center

454-9440

Masses: Saturday 5:00 PM,

Sunday 8 & 10 AM

We wait for new heavens



*and a new earth where
righteousness
is at home.*

2 P E T E R 2 1 1 3

Dec 6, 7, 2008

Parish Office hours: Tuesday 9 AM to 11AM

Wed 9-11-11:30 Thurs. 9-11:30

K of C and CDA Christmas party Dec. 6

Altar Society meeting Dec 7 2 PM

Second Sunday of



Mass Intentions

Sat, Dec. 6 5:00 PM – For the Parish
 Sun, Dec. 7 8:00 AM – Marion Wyskup by Anton & Cheryl Eleazor
 10:00 AM – Joseph Amico by Joe & Marilyn Tytanic
 Monday, Dec. 8 7:00 PM **Immaculate Conception – Holy Day –**
 For the repose of the soul of Fr. Alan J. Loth

No Masses during the week.

Sat, Dec. 13 5:00 PM – Bud Kusek by Backhus Family
 Sun, Dec. 14 8:00 AM – Marion Wyskup by his brothers and sisters-in-law
 10:00 AM – For the Parish

CONFESSIONS: To be arranged

Collections: November 30, 2008 119 Adult envelopes \$3502.73 7 Youth envelopes
 \$5.60 Building Fund \$20.00 All Saints \$20.00 Loose \$350.04 Total: \$3898.37 Building Fund
 on deposit as of November 23 (\$735,802.90)

Readings for Dec. 8 to Dec. 14. Mon. Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception Genesis 3:9-15, 20;
 Psalm 98:1,2-3ab,3cd-4; Ephesians 1:3-6,11-12; Luke 1:26-38; Tues. Isaiah 40:1-11; Psalm 96:1-2,3
 and 10ac, 11-12,12; Matthew 18:12-14; Wed. Isaiah 40:25-31; Psalm 103:1-2,3-4,8 and 10; Mathew
 11:28-30; Thurs. Isaiah 41:13-20; Psalm 145:1 and 9, 10-11,12-13ab; Matthew 11:11-15; Fri.
 Zechariah 2:14-17; Judith 13:18bcde,19; Luke 1:26-38; Sat. Sirach 48:1-4,9-11; Psalm 80:2ac and 3b,
 15-16, 18-19; Matthew 17:9a,10-13; Sunday Isaiah 61:1-2a,10-11; Luke 1:46-48,49-50,53-54; 1
 Thessalonians 5:16-24; John 1:6-8,19-28.

The Saint Vincent de Paul Society meets Tuesdays at 7 PM in the RE building. Anyone who
 needs assistance with food or utilities should call our number 343-2938.

Prayer Chain! Our Parish has a prayer chain for our Parish Family concerns!! You can call for prayer requests to either Kristi Kretchmar at 391-2728 or Marilyn Tytanic at 454-3556.

Father died at St. Ann Nursing Home just before 8 PM on Wednesday, Dec 3. His wake will be celebrated Tuesday, December 9th, at St. Teresa's at 6 PM, and his funeral Mass will be celebrated at the Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, OKC, on Wednesday, December 10th at 10:30 AM. His body will be interred in St. Teresa's cemetery. Father requested donations to Catholic Charities and the St. Teresa Building Fund in lieu of flowers.

Parish Web Site. www.stteresaharrah.org The email address is: info@stteresaharrah.org

The Prayer Group meets in the church Tuesday evenings at 7 PM to pray the Rosary for special intentions.

Scheduling corrections:

Lectors for December

5:00 Jamie Stephens; 8:00 Greg Nowakowski; 10:00 Debi Wagner

Servers for December

5:00 Emily and Eric Futrell

8:00 Daniel Fijalka, James Spaeth

10:00 Grace Brzozowski, Zachary and Dylan Boyle

Please note: Christmas scheduling is as follows:

December 8 Holy Day 7 PM; December 24 Christmas Eve 5 PM and 10 PM

December 25 Christmas Day 10 AM; New Year's Day 10 AM

We will need three servers, one lector and three Eucharistic Ministers at each of these Masses. We would appreciate volunteers for these assignments. Monday, December 8th is already filled, and some assignments have been made. Some are still open. If a family would like to serve together, you need to call me asap. You may call my home at 454-2908 or email: jscanina@msn.com. Thank you.

Looking for a Daily Mass? A parishioner suggests that you tune your TV to EWTN which is Cable channel 168 for a daily Mass at 7 and 11 AM.

If you need some information or something placed in the bulletin, please call Jude Delaney, 454-2908 or email: jscanina@msn.com. Thank you very much.

As some Ministers have been informed their ministry schedules, the software used to make up the monthly schedules has partially crashed. It has dropped off each minister's preferences; those times they would like to serve and those times they cannot serve. If you are a Lector or Eucharistic Minister, please call me (454-2908) or email: jscanina@msn.com your preferences so that I can update the system. Thank you very much for your cooperation.

Pilgrimage to the Holy Land

Fr. Joe Arledge, Pastor, Sacred Heart Catholic Church in OKC will lead a pilgrimage to Israel from Oct 5-14, 2009. The itinerary includes 3 nights in Tiberius and 6 nights in Jerusalem. Cost is \$2950 per person and includes roundtrip air fare. Deposit is \$450; final payment due June, 2009. For more information, contact John Tagnesi, 1-888-544-4461.

During the renovation of the Parish Hall our facilities are limited for funeral dinners. Regretfully, a maximum of thirty people may be served at a funeral dinner during the renovation.

Notes on Advent...

"O" by Paul Turner

Yes, you read the title right. That "O" the letter of the alphabet that most reminds us of breakfast cereal, inner tubes, doughnuts, hula hoops, no hitters and Advent.

In many parishes, "O" is the first word said in the new church year. Actually we sing it in Advent's most popular song, "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel." It announces the season which anticipates the coming of Christ at Christmas.

This hymn, which tells us Advent is starting, used to announce the Advent was ending.

The last 8 days of Advent form a little season all by themselves. As the church prepares for the birthday of Christ, the liturgy gets more intense. At daily Mass, the Gospels relate the events leading up to the first Christmas. At evening prayer we have a special series of antiphons which beckon the Messiah to come. Each night gives him a new name, drawn from the Old Testament, "O Wisdom," "O Sacred Lord," "O Flower of Jesse's stem," "O Key of David," "O Radiant Dawn," "O King of all Nations," and the greatest of them all, "O Emmanuel," a name that means "God is with us."

For the reasons which will become immediately obvious, we call that group of refrains the "O Antiphons," a hallmark of Advent, and a collection of music our church has treasured for many generations. The Mass now includes a version of them as the alleluia verses for the same eight days before Christmas.

By the middle ages, those seven antiphons got strung together into a popular hymn. The last one became verse one, and "Oh Come, O Come, Emmanuel" was born. Thus the antiphon originally established for the last evening before Christmas Eve is now often sung to begin Advent.

"That "O", of course, simply tells us that we're talking to someone. It's like saying, "Hey, you." Only more politely. But "O" reminds us of much more. It makes us think of something having no beginning and no end. Like love. Or an advent wreath. It resembles the shape of our mouth and the sound we make when we face a mystery we cannot fully comprehend.by Paul Turner, pastor of St. John Regis Parish in Kansas City, MO>