



ST. THÉRÈSE

CATHOLIC CHURCH EDENVALE

We are a visible expression of God's love.

28 December 2025

**THE HOLY FAMILY OF
JESUS, MARY, & JOSEPH**

MISSAL PAGE: 56

OLD: 143

DAILY: 124

Clergy:

Rev. Fr. Jonathan Petersen OMI

Rev. D Gregory (Deacon)

Rev. F. Graham (Deacon)

Rev. P. Rohrbeck (Deacon)

Entrance Antiphon

(Luke 2:16)

The shepherds went in haste,
and found Mary and Joseph,
and the Infant lying in a manger.

First Reading: Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14

Responsorial Psalm 128

***R. Blessed are all who fear the lord,
And walk in His ways.***

1. Blessed are all who fear the Lord,
And walk in His ways!
By the labour of your hands you shall eat.
You will be blessed and prosper. **R**

2. Your wife like a fruitful vine
In the heart of your house;
Your children like shoots of the Olive
Around your table. **R**

3. Indeed thus shall be blessed
The man who fears the Lord.
May the Lord bless you from Sion.
May you see Jerusalem prosper
All the days of your life! **R**

Second reading:

Colossians 3:12-21

Gospel Acclamation: *(Colossians 3:15a, 16a)*

Alleluia, Alleluia!

Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts;
Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly.

Alleluia!

Gospel: **Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23**

Communion Antiphon: *(Baruch 3:38)*

Our God has appeared on the earth,
and lived among us.

Reflection:

Lord Jesus, make me a faithful servant of your word
and guardian of your truth.

Help me to obey you willingly, like Joseph and Mary,
with unquestioning trust and with joyful hope.

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source: dailyscripture.net, author Don Schwager.



ST. THERESE PARISH CENSUS 2025

Please register your
family and add each
family member on
our database. Simply
scan the QR code

or follow the link:

<https://stthereseedenvale.org/parish-census/>

Christmas is a special time for Catholics. We celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ. This day is full of joy and hope. Families come together to remember this holy event. Churches are decorated with lights and nativity scenes. We sing carols and pray together. Christmas is a time to give thanks and share love. It reminds us of God's great gift to the world.

The Christmas season does not end on December 25th. It continues with the Octave of Christmas. This is an eight-day celebration that keeps the joy of Christmas alive.

Each day of the Octave has its own special meaning and prayers. This helps us stay close to the true meaning of Christmas. The Octave of Christmas is a time to reflect and stay joyful in our faith.

COMMUNITY

VARIOUS INTENTIONS TO PRAY FOR:

*Our Sick – Dear Lord, in your great compassion and love, we ask you to lay your healing hands on the sick and aged of our parish and all our loved ones.

*The Unemployed – Dear Lord, we pray for those struggling to find employment, that through their hardship they will put their faith and trust in you.

*Those who are grieving: – O Lord, we call upon You in our time of sorrow, that You give us the strength and will to bear our heavy burdens, while we struggle to comprehend life's hardships.

Pray with the Pope: Intention for December:
For Christians in areas of conflict.

Let us pray that Christians living in areas of war or conflict, especially in the Middle East, might be seeds of peace, reconciliation and hope.

SACRAMENTS AND PREPARATION

COMMUNION TO THE SICK

If you have a family member in the parish who is housebound and in need of Holy Communion, please contact the parish office.

BAPTISM

Parents are required to attend a course of instruction before the baptism of their child. Please contact the parish office to make an appointment. Please ensure that you book your baby's baptism date with the office. No baptism will be done without a booking.

MARRIAGE

Couples are required to attend a pre-marriage course of instruction or an Engaged Encounter weekend. Please Contact Fr. Jonathan three to six months before the event.

CATECHETICS

Please diarise enrolment dates for 2026 Junior Catechism; Phases 1 – 3 (Reconciliation and First Holy Communion

Saturday 17th January

**Coordinator: Mary-Ann –
maryann@ntnis.co.za or 082 877 9066**

Kids for Christ: Phase 4 (Youngsters who have received first communion)

Saturday 24th January

**Coordinator: Gaily –
gailypillay@gmail.com or 083 589 0063**

Senior Catechism: 3 phase course (traditionally starting in Gr 8) leading to Confirmation.

& Bridging Classes:

Saturday 31st January

**Coordinator : Leisle –
leisle.williams@icloud.com
or 082 923 1256**

RCIA: The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults is intended to instruct in the Catholic Faith those adults who are seeking to enter into full communion with the Catholic Church through Baptism and/or Confirmation. RCIA is your compass to the Catholic Faith. Please call the parish office to arrange a meeting with **Fr. Jonathan**.

CHRISTMAS TIMETABLE 2025

<p><u>Mon. 29th Dec.</u> 8.30am Mass</p> <p><u>Tue. 30th Dec.</u> 8.30am Mass</p> <p><u>Wed. 31st Dec</u> 8.30am Mass no evening Mass</p>	<p><u>Thurs. 1st Jan.</u> 8.30am Mass</p> <p>NO CONFESSIONS</p> <p><u>Fri 2nd Jan.</u> 8.30am Mass no evening Mass no Benediction</p> <p><u>Sat 3rd Jan.</u></p>	<p>8.00am Mass with confessions</p> <p>5.00pm Mass</p> <p><u>Sun 4th Jan.</u> 7.30am MASS & 9.30am MASS & 5.00pm Mass</p>
<p><u>Mon 5th Jan. to Fri 9th Jan:</u> 8.30am daily Mass</p> <p>NO EVENING MASSES</p> <p style="text-align: center; color: red;">The Office will function on an emergency needs only</p>		

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH

Christmastide is a season when many families gather. Family life is a blessing, but often a mixed blessing. Our family life can bring us our greatest joys: the deep love between spouses and between parents and children, as well as grandparents and grandchildren. But family life can also bring us our greatest sorrows: our anxious concern for a loved one who is sick in mind or body, or our pain at a family relationship that has gone sour, or finally the pain of losing a beloved family member. Today we pray for God's blessing on our families, in times of both joy and sorrow, as we hear of the family life of Mary, Joseph, and the child Jesus.

Today's gospel continues the wonderful Christmas story. We hear of the holy family going up to Jerusalem to present the child Jesus in the temple, fulfilling the Torah command (Exodus13:11-15). This consecration of a firstborn son foreshadows Jesus' later self-offering on the cross. It was also necessary to fulfil the rite of ceremonial purification for Mary, forty days after giving birth to her son (Leviticus12:2-8). Although described in the Torah as purifying from ritual "uncleanness," in fact this regulation provided forty days for a mother to bond with her newborn baby, without the many distractions of other family duties.

As a whole, the readings for this feast-day speak of the blessings of family life but also its challenges. Our prayer today is for God's loving help for our families and the wider community.

Catholicism of the Catholic Church References for The Holy Family:

CCC 531-534: the Holy Family

CCC 1655-1658, 2204-2206: the Christian family, a domestic Church

CCC 2214-2233: duties of family members

CCC 529, 583, 695: the Presentation in the Temple

CCC 144-146, 165, 489, 2572, 2676: Abraham and Sarah as models of faith

NEXT WEEK

4TH JANUARY 2026

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

NEW MISSAL PAGE: 68

OLD: 154

WEEKDAY: 145

121 Horwood Street | P.O. Box 35 Edenvale 1610
Cell: 082-444-4665

eMail: admin@edenvalecatholicchurch.co.za

Website: <http://stthereseedenvale.org>

Office hours 9am - 2pm Mon to Fri

Only emergency calls after hours

St. Thérèse Banking Details:

NAME: Edenvale Catholic Church

BANK: Standard Bank Greenstone

ACCOUNT: 02-002-0759

REF: Your Name or "Collection".

*Thank you for your kind donations,
they are greatly appreciated.*

EFT Banking details for Mass Intentions/Baptisms/Weddings & Funerals

NAME: OMI Edenvale

BANK: Standard Bank Greenstone

ACCOUNT: 42-165-1857

Ref: Mass or Stipend & Your Name

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul Banking details:

Account Holder: SSVP Edenvale

Bank: Standard Bank Ltd

Branch Code: 051001

Account number: 06-166-6904

*In order to keep abreast of church
activities, special Mass times and
other notifications please join our
Church WhatsApp group by sending
your request to 082-444-4665*

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REGULAR MASS TIMES

Please see Christmas timetable on Page 3

Weekend Obligation:

Saturday	17h00
Sunday	07h30 ; 09h30 ; 17h00

Weekday Masses

Monday	08h30
Tuesday	06h15
Wednesday	School Mass at 08h00 17h30
Thursday	08h30
Friday	06h15 & 17h30
Saturday	08h00

Public Holidays 08h30

CONFESSION:

Thursday	After morning Mass
Saturday	After morning Mass

FIRST FRIDAY MASS & BENEDICTION

Will begin at 5pm every first Friday.

Every other Friday: Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at 5 followed by Mass at 5.30pm.

First Friday Mass will be celebrated at Little Eden every first Friday at 10am.

First Saturday Novena to Our Lady of Fatima is prayed after morning Mass.

St Thérèse Worshipping Community:

Our Vision

*A pilgrim community striving to be a
visible expression of God's presence
to everyone through faith,
hope, unity, and love.*

Our Mission

*A Church that lives by faith, is
recognised for its love, and is a voice
of hope to the community and
Beyond.*