

THE JOURNEY

“Truth suffers, but never dies.”- St Teresa of Avila

First Sunday of Advent
December 3, 2023



Pastor

Reverend Frank John Latzko

Address

1037 W. Armitage Ave.
Chicago, Illinois 60614

773-528-6650

Weekend Mass Schedule

Saturday 6 PM French Mass

Sunday 10 AM, 12 PM, 6 PM

Daily Mass Schedule

Wednesday - 8:00AM

Friday Communion Service

Friday- 8:00AM

Baptism, Reconciliation, Anointing

Please call the office to arrange or email
cgioia@stteraparish.org

Eucharistic Adoration

Tuesdays- 6 PM to 7:30 PM

Office Hours

Weekdays: 9 AM - 7:30 PM

“St. Teresa of Avila Parish is an engaged community rooted in the beauty of the Eucharist and our Catholic faith. We want to make a difference in the lives of the people, especially those who are searching to discover how much God loves them and is calling them to join in the Mission of Christ to live His Gospel. We do so by welcoming people of all backgrounds and cultures in our parish, respecting their desires and questions, crossing borders and learning from those we encounter. You are welcomed to join in the Mission of building bridges and sharing the Good News of Christ.”

Community Ministries

If you want to serve the St. Teresa’s community in our liturgies or our planning, there are many opportunities for you!

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults)

teresa.church/rcia

If you are interested in joining the Catholic Church, or helping those through that process as a companion.

Lectors

teresa.church/lectors

Email eric.fredericks+lm@gmail.com for more information.

Eucharistic Ministers

teresa.church/eucharistic-ministers

Email eric.fredericks+lm@gmail.com for more information.

Pastoral Council

teresa.church/pastoral-council

Represent the parish and help advise the pastor in our mission and vision for our community.

Finance Council

teresa.church/finance-council

Reviews financial documents and position of the parish and advise pastor and business manager on financial decisions.

Interested in Joining Our Parish?

Are you interested in making St. Teresa’s your spiritual home? Or just want to learn more about our community?

Fill out the below form and drop it in the collection basket or join online at teresa.church/join.

Name

Email

Phone

Address

Ministries of Interest

In fulfilling our mission to be “Faith & Spirit. Alive.” we invite you to get involved with your family here at St. Teresa of Avila parish.

Outreach Ministries

We have a variety of opportunities you can join to get involved and help serve our community, the Lincoln Park area, and the city of Chicago.

Welcome the Stranger

Join with parishioners from St. Teresa of Avila, St. Josaphat and others in the Lincoln Park Community to support a refugee family's journey in Chicago. Please fill out this link and we will add you to our updates and emails! <https://bit.ly/welcomethestrangerLP>. Additionally, if you would like to work directly with a refugee family, you can sign up at any time for a 3 hour Engaging with

Refugees: Cross-Cultural Training <https://exodusworldservice.org/register/>.

Night Ministry

Support our partnership with The Night Ministry by providing sack suppers to the homeless. Participation is easy and safe! For more information and to sign up, please contact Susan Matejka at smatejka@hpschicago.com.

Loaves and Fishes Dinner

teresa.church/loaves-and-fishes

Weekly soup kitchen feeding and sitting with people in need of a meal.

La Posada Border Ministry

teresa.church/border-ministry

Travel to the border to help and understand those seeking asylum.

Food Pantry

teresa.church/food-pantry

Our parish food pantry is a welcoming, dependable source of nutritious food, respect and social contact to the needy of our community.

Care for Creation Ministry

teresa.church/care-for-creation

Our mission, an authentic social and moral commitment, is to educate and inspire our parish to accept the health of the planet and all creation as a personal and communal responsibility, thereby instilling a desire to make choices that result in actions for the stewardship of God's creation.

Spiritual Ministries

There are many ministries at St. Teresa's that celebrate our faith via small christian communities, serving in our liturgies, and learning more.

Women's Spirituality

teresa.church/womens-spirituality

Meets the Last Tuesday of the month to provide a supportive space for prayer and reflection.

Men's Spirituality

teresa.church/mens-spirituality

Meets virtually every Tuesdays at 7am to come together and discuss what it means to be a disciple. Email cdeanhockey@gmail.com to get the link and join.

Bible Studies/Discussion Groups

Throughout the year there are bible studies you can join or maybe a book study with Fr. Frank. Schedules change throughout the year, so stay tuned!

Religious Education

teresa.church/religious-education

Whether it's our Montessori based Catechesis of the Good Shephard for children, EDGE Middle School ministry, QUEST High School Ministry, or SPRED Ministry for those with special needs, St. Teresa's has a wide array of programs to meet the needs of our children.

Communauté Catholique Francophone de Chicago

teresa.church/french-community

St. Teresa's is home to a wonderful and vibrant French community.

This Sunday's Readings:

First Reading: Isaiah 63:16b-17,19b;64:2-7

Isaiah prays for the Lord's forgiveness of the people.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:3-9

Paul gives thanks to God for the faith of the Corinthians.

Gospel Reading: Mark 13:33-37

Jesus warns his disciples to be watchful so that they will be ready when the Son of Man comes.

Feasts and Saints:

12/4- St. John Damascene, Priest and Doctor of the Church

12/6- St. Nicholas, Bishop

12/7- St. Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

12/8- The Immaculate Conception of The Blessed Virgin Mary



Financials: October 2023

	FY24	FY23
Basket/Mail In:	8,917	21,536
Give Central:	38,753	34,775
Total:	THIS YEAR	PREVIOUS YEAR
	\$47,670	\$56,311
	\$(8,641)	

Reflections for Today:

What specific responsibilities in my life require more attention to detail and conscientiousness?

In what ways can I enhance my spiritual preparedness during Advent, and what practices might help me to achieve this?



Daily Prayer for Today:

Lord our God, we thank you that you let light shine out every day and every year. Thank you that we may always look to you, whose right hand will bring order into everything and set all things right, even in difficult times. May our hearts receive strength to persevere and go on praising you, for you remain, no matter what happens on earth. You are our God, you have sent us the Savior, and we can draw close to you. You have made us the firm promise that your day is coming when truth and justice will arise on earth to the glory of your name. May the hearts of many people turn to you so that they worship you and call to you for help, to the glory of our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

Stewardship:

“Be watchful! Be alert! You do not know when the time will come.” - Mark 13:33

We all take things for granted. In particular, we take time for granted. We make our lives too busy. We plan our days, weeks, months, even years in advance. Remember, our time on earth is a gift. None of us knows how long we will be here. Start today and begin thanking God for each and every day. Take time in silence, every day, and listen to how God is calling you right now to help build His kingdom on earth.

From Fr. Frank:

Last Saturday, I participated in a beautiful celebration of the 75th anniversary of St. John Fisher Parish, my third assignment in my 40 years as priest. What a joyful moment it was, reliving memories and reflecting on a vibrant, west Beverly Catholic community that has served Christ's people for 75 years. Being a part of that history is a huge part of my own history as a priest, for the people of St. John Fisher welcomed me as their priest, allowing the gift of my priesthood to be further transformed by God's People. The priest is nothing without the people, for his priesthood is lifeless and empty if it isn't rooted in the love and service of the people.

The gift of the priesthood, given to me by the Lord, at the hands of the then Bishop Wilton Gregory, in the church of St. Emily, has shaped me as a person for 40 years. My first assignment, St. Frances of Rome in Cicero was foundational in my life and ministry for it was at St. Frances that I learned how to be a public leader of worship. It was here I began experimenting with different ways of preaching and creating various liturgies. The people of St. Frances graciously put up with the fervor and energy of a very young priest who experimented with so many ways of celebrating the liturgical seasons, trying to make the Church more "relevant." The people endured much and simply chalked it all up to my youth and inexperience. They simply let me be and learn. I owe the people of St. Frances of Rome everything because my foundation as a priest is rooted in their lives and in their patience with all my "new ideas."

St Mary of the Woods, my second assignment on the north side of Chicago, a great and wonderful parish that further rooted my in the lives of people. It was at this time, the late 1980's and early 1990's that AIDS became a reality that called the Church to become a place of compassion and mercy for those suffering, particularly the Gay community. I became involved at Bonaventure House, the first care facility dedicated to take care of people with AIDS, located across from Illinois Masonic Hospital. I also volunteered with the AIDS Pastoral Care Network that allowed me to get involved with the physical realities of taking care of people dying of this horrible plague.

St St. Mary of the Woods I became immersed in the ministry to people living with AIDS that gave me the privilege of serving the LGBTQ community. Thirty years ago it was actually controversial to even speak the word "gay" in church, let alone preach about the injustices faced by the Gay community. The church was frequently a place of exclusion and rejection for so many gay Catholics. But ironically, the AIDS crisis put a human face on those who are gay. Compassion has a way of changing and reshaping the human heart. I had the privilege of helping to care for a young man dying of AIDS, which helped me to experience Christ more deeply in those excluded. It became my passion to make the church a more welcoming place for those pushed away.

I left St. Mary's when I was assigned to teach at Archbishop Quigley Preparatory Seminary High School, where I spent six years learning how to be an English teacher, which was my first desire: to teach young people English. I lived right here at St. Teresa of Avila, with Fr. John Hoffman, the greatest pastor ever. I'm living in the same rooms then as I am living now.

My students at Quigley were the best since they had to endure a brand new teacher, studying to be certified as a teacher in the state of Illinois. I fumbled my way through that first year, trying to figure out how to make grammar and literature "exciting" for my students. It was learning how to teach that helped me to learn how to preach, speaking while standing on my feet before a group of people. My students taught me how to "gauge the crowd," so to speak, admitting when I wasn't getting through and changing course right in the middle of a lesson. I loved my years teaching English.

St. John Fisher followed my years at Quigley and it was at the end of my term there that I was called to be pastor of St. Eulalia in Maywood, a small, African American parish. My years at St Eulalia's were life changing, living in a poor parish with few resources, experiencing the reality of racism for the first time. The people of St. Eulalia's helped me to admit my own inner echoes of racism, my privileged background and to simply listen to the people entrusted to my care. In many ways, the people led me on a pathway of becoming part of the solution to the embedded racism in our culture.

From Father Frank Continued:

So many beautiful ministries evolved at St. Eulalia's, from the soup kitchen to the homeless shelter. We transformed the rectory into a center for the formation of outreach services to the poor, including showers and clothing. The old school became the Quinn Center, a place of training and education for the migrant and immigrant. St Eulalia is a beacon of light on the west side.

Sixteen years ago, Cardinal George asked me to accept a new assignment as pastor of St. Teresa of Avila, the very parish I lived at while teaching at Quigley. Being here at St. Teresa's has been a gift that can never be measured. All the previous years of ministry and experience in various parishes and a high school brought me to this powerhouse of a parish. So much had happened in the world, in the church and in our parish: the fall of the economy in 2008, the election of our first African American president, the changes in the liturgical translation of the Mass, the renovation of the church, connecting with La Posada Mission, the beginning of refugee ministry, the election of 2016 and its consequences, COVID, the social unrest following the death of George Floyd, the shutdown and its aftermath, emerging out of Covid, One Parish One Prisoner....

I love this parish which is at the HEART of my priesthood. I will have spent more years here than at any other place in my life, including all my years growing up in Des Plaines. All of you have made such a mark on my life and priesthood and I just want to say "thank you," for allowing me to enter into your lives: for the times I accompanied so many in times of sickness and grief, for the beautiful First Communion and Confirmations, the joyful weddings and countless Baptisms, the Christmas and Easter celebrations, Catechesis of the Good Shepherd, supporting my Caminos, beginning refugee and prison ministries, serving the hungry and poor, your unbelievable generosity in Time of Your Life and Together in Joy, the lay leaders and volunteers who keep all the ministries alive and growing, the weekly gathering of the Sunday Eucharist that unites us in Word and Sacrament.

Jesus Christ, yesterday, today, forever.

Jesus Christ, the one Priest.

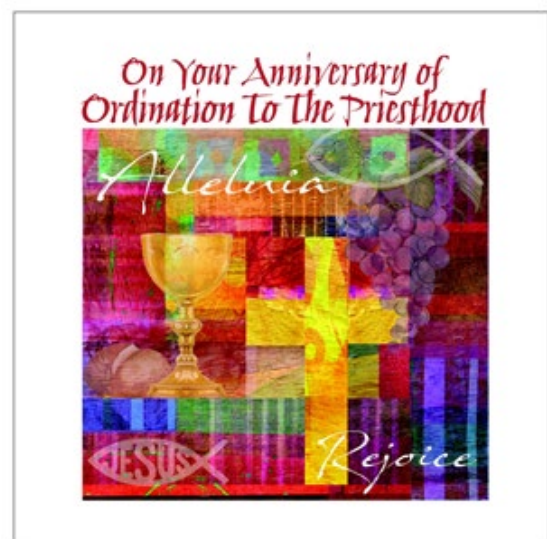
We ALL share on the one Priesthood of Christ.

As Baptized followers of Christ, we are ALL called to witness to the gospel through our Catholic faith.

Thank you for letting me be your priest, pastor and fellow follower of Christ.

Thank you ALL for making the Catholic Church in Lincoln Park a place of welcome and compassion.

May God Bless Fr. Frank On His 40th Ordination Anniversary February 4th, 1984



St. Nicholas:

Feast Day December 6th

On Dec. 6, the faithful commemorate a bishop in the early church who was known for generosity and love of children. Born in Lycia in Asia Minor around the late third or fourth century, St. Nicholas of Myra is more than just the inspiration for the modern day Santa.

One of the most famous stories of the generosity of St. Nicholas says that he threw bags of gold through an open window in the house of a poor man to serve as dowry for the man's daughters, who otherwise would have been forced into prostitution. The gold is said to have landed in the family's shoes, which were drying near the fire. This is why children leave their shoes out by the door, or hang their stockings by the fireplace in the hopes of receiving a gift on the eve of his feast.

St. Nicholas is associated with Christmas because of the tradition that he had the custom of giving secret gifts to children. It is also conjectured that the saint, who was known to wear red robes and have a long white beard, was culturally converted into the large man with a reindeer-drawn sled full of toys because in German, his name is "San Nikolaus" which almost sounds like "Santa Claus." In the East, he is known as St. Nicholas of Myra for the town in which he was bishop. But in the West he is called St. Nicholas of Bari because, during the Muslim conquest of Turkey in 1087, his relics were taken to Bari by the Italians.

St Nicholas is the patron of children and of sailors. His intercession is sought by the shipwrecked, by those in difficult economic circumstances, and for those affected by fires. He died on December 6, 346.

December Giving to the Refugee's:

As the Holiday and Giving Season is here, it is important to remember those who have nothing. St. Teresa of Avila partners with Exodus World Services to help support refugees that are coming to the US. St. Teresa's has committed to sponsoring Two Welcome Packs for two newly arriving families. A welcome pack is a one time service that assist in turning an empty apartment into a home for newly arriving refugees. We have created an Amazon Wish List in order to gather the necessary items for the family, which includes household items for the kitchen, bath, and bedroom. We will be conducting this drive during the month of December. Our goal is to have all of the necessary items by Christmas so we can be ready to meet a new family sometime in early 2024. May God Bless you for your generosity.

Below is a QR code that you can scan. All items will be shipped to the rectory. Any questions please reach out to kristen@rlcanning.com

<https://www.amazon.com/registries/gl/guest-view/2HPSMMCIQVCZC>



Little Sisters of the Poor Angel Tree:

Please return the wrapped and tagged Angel gift to the parish office no later than Friday December 8th.

Thank you!

Bible Education

Bible Education:

“A Biblical Walk with Our Blessed Mother” Join us, on Tuesday at 7 pm OR Wednesdays at 9 am, as we learn Mary’s unique role in God’s kingdom and in our lives.

“A Biblical Walk Through The Mass” Join us, on Sunday at 8:50 – 9:50 am OR 4:40 – 5:40 pm, as we explore the rich biblical roots of the Liturgy and learn what our words, gestures, and rituals mean and why it all matters.

Sign Up or Questions? Email Debbie at dbichimer@gmail.com

Join Us For Hospitality

After the 10am and 6pm Mass

This is a wonderful way to catch up and visit with fellow parishioners as well as meeting new ones and getting to know each other! If you would be interested in hosting a Sunday after the 10am Mass here is the link to sign up-

<https://signup.com/go/uwfqUZN>

Food Pantry

In an attempt to reduce the use of plastic bags, the Food Pantry is always in great need of **DOUBLED PAPER GROCERY BAGS WITH HANDLES**. Please drop off at the parish office or at the pantry. Help our Food Pantry by donating cans of **HEARTY SOUP** or **BOXES OF CEREAL**. Please bring to Mass each week to be Presented during The Presentation of the Gifts. Note: We only ask for soup and cereal as most items needed come from the Greater Chicago Food Depository. Thank You!



Loaves and Fishes:

Hello St Teresa Parishioners,

As the weather turns colder our Loaves and Fishes Ministry is looking for any new and gently worn coats for our guests. Men’s large and x large are in the highest demand and the warmer the better!

Call the Parish Office to arrange drop off- 773-528-6650

Give the Gift of Love for the Holidays:

To your Spouse, Child, Parent, Friend or Neighbor.

Anyone who is Home or Hospital bound.

Schedule a visit by Fr. Frank Latzko or Kenneth Jaszczor (MOC) to bring the Eucharist to their Home this Holiday Season.

To schedule an appointment call St. Teresa of Avila Parish office at 773-528-6650 or email cgioia@stteresaparish.org

Calling All Those Who Enjoy Cooking!

Hearing the call to serve those less fortunate? Always wanted to (learn to) cook for a crowd? Our Loaves and Fishes Ministry is seeking cooks (and their helpers) to prepare a warm dinner for the elderly and homeless in our area, served each Friday afternoon. For a 3-6 hour commitment one Friday a month, you’ll meet a wonderful group of people to work with, share kitchen tips and feel good about helping those in need. For more info, please contact Charisse Gioia cgioia@stteresaparish.org Thank you!

Prayer

Mass Intentions

10AM - Mae Anderson (D) , Katie Kennicott (D), Mary Ellen Alexander (D) and Mary Pfaff and Family

12 PM - Parishioners of St. Teresa of Avila Living and Deceased

6 PM - Parishioners of St. Teresa of Avila Living and Deceased

Let Us Pray For: The Sick, The Deceased and Peace in Our World:

We pray for everyone who suffers from illness of mind or body.

We pray for those who have passed away.

We pray for peace in our city and around the world.

We pray for the intentions on our prayer cards.

We pray for survivors and perpetrators of sexual abuse.

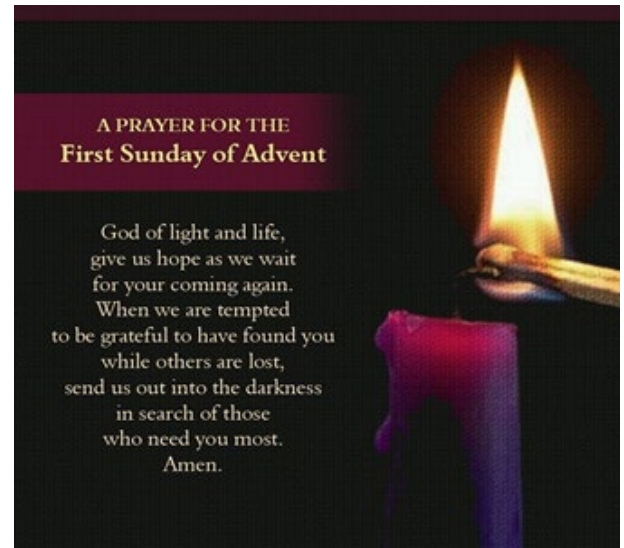


Upcoming Mass Schedule

Sunday 12/10 10am- Fr. Udovic

Sunday 12/10 12pm- Fr. Udovic

Sunday 12/10 6pm- Fr. Udovic



Sunday Funday: December 3rd

Today is- Make a Gift Day and Lets Hug Day

1922- The first public Technicolor motion picture film, The Toll of the Sea, was released at the Rialto Theatre, in New York City.

1967- 54-year-old Louis Washkansky received the first human heart transplant, led by Dr. Christian Barnard, at Groote Schuur Hospital in Cape Town, South Africa. He lived for 18 days.

1994- The Sony PlayStation was released in Japan.

“Just because I cannot see it, doesn’t mean I can’t believe it!” — Jack Skellington, “The Nightmare Before Christmas”





SUNDAY DECEMBER 17TH, 2023

AFTER 10AM MASS

JOIN US FOR A PANCAKE BREAKFAST

AND

A SPECIAL VISIT FROM GOOD OLD ST. NICK!

**THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF
THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY
FRIDAY DECEMBER 8TH, 2023
7PM MASS**



First Sunday of Advent:

The first candle, which is purple, symbolizes hope. It is sometimes called the “Prophecy Candle” in remembrance of the prophets, especially Isaiah, who foretold the birth of Christ. It represents the expectation felt in anticipation of the coming Messiah.

It is only fitting that the first candle on the Advent wreath represents Hope – the first Sunday of Advent not only leads us to anticipate the birth of Christ but celebrate the beginning of a new liturgical season as well. The first candle is purple, the primary color of Advent and a color symbolizing royalty. The first candle harkens us back to Isaiah’s foretelling of the birth of Christ and all of the promises God gave us in the Old Testament that would be fulfilled by the birth of Jesus.

This Advent, we light the first candle today Sunday, December 3, 2023.



Parish Contacts

Staff

Fr. Frank Latzko

Pastor

frfrankjohn56@gmail.com

Charisse Gioia

Office Manager/Technology Coordinator/
Bulletin

cgioia@stteresaparish.org

Charisse is responsible for managing the parish office as well producing our weekly bulletin and emails.

Charisse has been with the parish since 2019.

Mark Neuhengen

Director of Evangelization and
Parish Mission

mneuhengen@stteresaparish.org

Mark is responsible for our Parish Evangelization and Ministry. Mark is a graduate from Loyola University Chicago, holds a masters in theology and has been with the parish since 2019.

Barbara McHugh

Religious Education

bmchugh@stteresaparish.org

Barb is responsible for our Children's Faith formation programs. She and her husband Ed have been parishioners at St. Teresa's for over 30 years.

Carol Spalla-Malone

Part-Time Business Manager

cspalla@archicago.org

Jason Krumwiede

Director of Music

musicalnut1@mac.com

Staff

Housekeeping

Irma Saavedra

Sergio Mora

Building & Facilities Manager

smora@stteresaparish.org

Parish Council

Anna Althoff- President

annamarialthoff@hotmail.com

The Parish Pastoral Council is a consultative body to the pastor and represents a cross section of the parish. Together with the Pastor, the PPC helps to craft and carry out the Mission of the Parish.

Finance Council

Don Eldred- Chair

The St. Teresa Finance Council reviews the financial documents and position of the parish and advises the pastor and business manager on financial matters, including the preparation of the annual parish budget.

Stewardship Committee

Dan Summins- Chair

dsummins@hotmail.com

The Stewardship Committee's goal is to foster a sense of gratefulness and response of increased sharing of gifts in the parish and communities we seek to support. We do this by creating, encouraging and communicating ideas and programs that help parishioners recognize and share their gifts.

Contributing to the Bulletin

Past bulletins and guidelines for submitting to the bulletin are available on our website at: www.teresa.church/bulletins

How to Report Sexual Abuse

To report an allegation of sexual abuse and/or neglect of minors, contact the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) Hotline at 800.25.ABUSE (800.252.2873) and/or contact your local police department.

You can also contact the Office of Protection of Children and Youth (OPCY) at 312.534.5254.